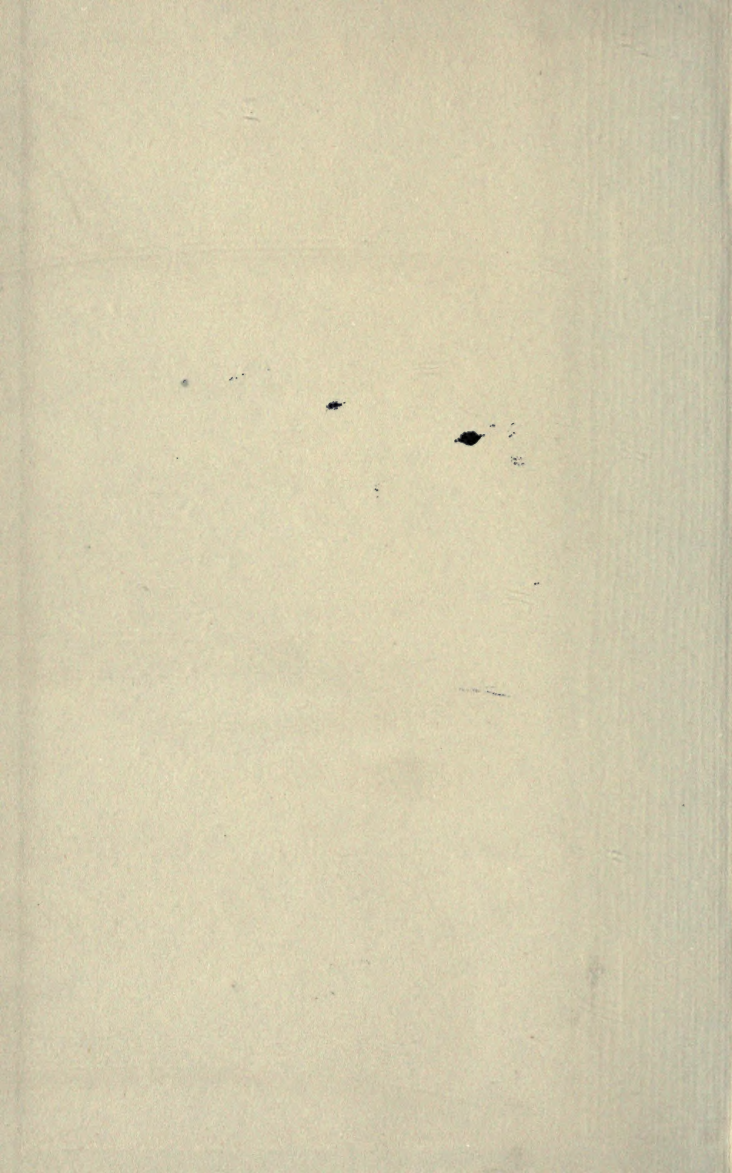


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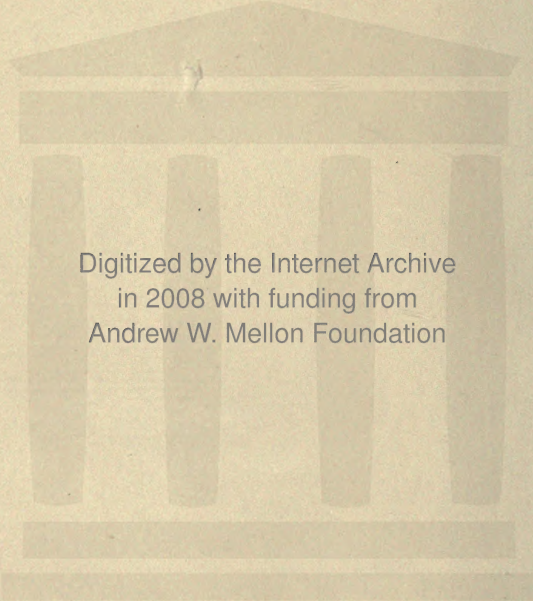
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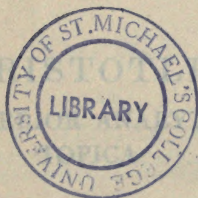
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## ARISTOTLE

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## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS

## INTRODUCTION

### I. THE COMPOSITION OF THE ANALYTICS

IT is hardly satisfactory to discuss the contents of the *Posterior Analytics* without first considering whether the work is rightly named ; that is, whether (upon the whole) it presupposes and forms a logical sequel to the *Prior Analytics*. Aristotle himself does not distinguish the two ; when, in the course of another treatise, he has occasion to mention either, he refers simply to τὰ Ἀναλυτικά. The division into Prior and Posterior is not certainly earlier than about A.D. 200, when Alexander of Aphrodisias wrote his commentary on *An. Pr.* I ; but it can be traced back with probability to the Alexandrian scholar Hermippus (late third century B.C.). The presumption that the names so assigned correspond to the order of actual composition has been assailed by Professor F. Solmsen (*Die Entwicklung der aristotelischen Logik und Rhetorik*, Berlin, 1929). At the time when I was translating the *Prior Analytics* I was disposed to accept his conclusions ; but I have since changed my mind. It is not possible here to examine Solmsen's ingenious arguments in detail (this has been done sufficiently by Sir David Ross in the introduction to his edition of the *Analytics*) ; but it may be useful to summarize some of the more important and to indicate how they may be met.

Assuming that Aristotle's thought became pro-



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gressively emancipated from Platonic influence, Solmsen offers (among others) the following grounds for supposing that *An. Post.* is more Platonic, and therefore earlier, than *An. Pr.* :

1. It is preoccupied (especially in Book I) with mathematics.

2. Its theory of ἀρχαί springs from Plato's doctrine of ὑποθέσεις in *Rep.* vi-vii.

3. It contains passages implying acceptance of the Theory of Forms (treatment of points, lines, planes and solids as a "chain of Forms," 73 a 35 ; recognition of a ἐν παρὰ τὰ πολλά, 100 a 7).

4. The word ὅρος, common in *An. Pr.*, rare in *An. Post.*, represents the final stage in the development of Aristotle's thought away from the Platonic εἶδος, by way of καθόλου, to a purely logical conception.

5. In the *Politics*, if we accept Jaeger's conclusions, discussion of the Ideal State precedes consideration of existing imperfect states ; in the same way the doctrine of scientific demonstration by the first figure should precede the examination of indirect or inconclusive methods of reasoning, just as in Aristotle himself Platonic idealism gave place to a scientific interest in observable facts.

More generally, (6) the tentative methods of *An. Post.* provide a significant contrast with the brisk assurance of *An. Pr.*

Ross has shown (I think) very fairly that, however much truth there may be in these arguments, none is conclusive. (1) Mathematics is the only science that can provide examples of pure demonstration. (2) No one doubts that Aristotle's theory of ἀρχαί owes much to its Platonic prototype, but the differences are at least as great as the resemblances.

(3) The passages cited need not and should not be interpreted as evidence for belief in Forms. (4) ὅρος (in the sense of "term") occurs more often in *An. Post.* than Solmsen apparently realized (fifteen times instead of three ?) ; in any case one would expect to find it more often in a discussion of formal logic ; and it is defined only in *An. Pr.* 24 b 16. (One might add that Aristotle's terminology is so fluid that no argument of this kind can be really cogent.) (5) The argument from analogy (for it is no more than this), though attractive, can hardly be said to prove anything ; and if we are assessing probabilities it may well seem strange that Aristotle, having discovered syllogism in Barbara, should elaborate a whole theory of demonstration before experimenting to see what could be done with other combinations of premisses. (6) Apart from the fact that *An. Pr.* is a more highly finished work, differences of manner and method can be sufficiently explained by differences in the nature and difficulty of the subject-matter.

These counter-arguments weaken but do not destroy Solmsen's thesis. Far more telling is the evidence of direct reference and presupposition. Ross has shown that all the explicit references from one work to the other support the traditional order, and that at least eighteen of the thirty-four chapters of *An. Post.* I contain passages that definitely presuppose a knowledge of *An. Pr.* ; so that, to accommodate the received text to Solmsen's view, we must assume more re-writing than is consistent with reasonable probability.

If, as I hope, this summary gives a fair picture of the facts, we can be moderately confident that the *Prior Analytics* is really the earlier work (apart from

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a few passages which seem to have been added after the *Posterior Analytics* was written).

### II. THE CONDITIONS OF SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE

In the *Prior Analytics* Aristotle has stated and developed his theory of syllogism, analysed and illustrated the various figures, moods and modes, described the conditions under which syllogism is possible, examined its mechanism and properties, given practical advice for its use, and distinguished it from other methods of reasoning. He now turns to the problem of knowledge: what it is, how it is acquired, how guaranteed to be true, how expanded and systematized.

#### *Knowledge and Demonstration*

In the first three chapters we are shown that all reasoned acquisition of knowledge involves a process in which the mind advances from something that is already known. This starting-point may be knowledge of (a) fact, or (b) meaning, or (c) both. It seems clear that Aristotle has already tacitly restricted his survey to ἐπιστήμη proper, because he illustrates (a) by a general axiom and (b) and (c) by mathematical examples; and he goes on to qualify his original statement by observing that when we draw an inference by syllogism in the first figure, although the major premiss must be known at the outset, the minor may only be grasped at the same time as the conclusion. Thus he shows (1) that some of our previous knowledge may be only potential, (2) that reasoning consists in the actualization of potential knowledge; and (pointing out in passing the differ-

ence between universal and enumerative propositions) prepares us for his explicit account of scientific knowledge (ch. i).

We have unqualified knowledge of a fact only if we (1) attribute it to its true cause and (2) recognize it as necessary. One form of such knowledge is acquired by demonstration through syllogism. The ultimate premisses from which our conclusions are drawn must be (1) true, or the conclusions would not be demonstrable as necessary, (2) primary and immediate, because otherwise they could only be known by demonstration. They must also be causative of the conclusions, prior (as being causative and more fundamental in nature) and better known (*i.e.*, more intelligible in themselves, as being more universal). Finally they must be appropriate, *i.e.*, not borrowed from a different genus.

These ultimate premisses are of two kinds. First there are axioms (*ἀξιώματα, κοινά, κοινὰ ἀρχαί*), among which Aristotle reckons not only universal principles such as the Laws of Contradiction and Excluded Middle, but principles such as "equals subtracted from equals leave equal remainders," which are relevant only to quantities. Perhaps it was his failure to distinguish these that made him uncertain about the precise function of the axioms in demonstration; at any rate he speaks of them sometimes as the source (*ἐξ ὧν*), sometimes as the means (*δι' ὧν*). Secondly, there are *θέσεις*, principles special to individual sciences: these are either *ὑποθέσεις*, assumptions that the primary subjects of the science exist, or *ὀρισμοί*, nominal definitions of technical terms. These principles are not demonstrable. If knowledge were only possible through demonstration,



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then either (1) demonstration would consist in an infinite regress, and we should never reach *first* principles, or (2) if we did reach them they would be themselves indemonstrable and unknowable. Aristotle shows that there is no escape from this difficulty by supposing that everything can be proved by circular demonstration, because this does not prove anything at all (chs. ii-iii). How the first principles *are* known is not explained until the end of Book II.

### *Demonstration and its Premisses*

Scientific knowledge is concerned only with necessary facts ; these can only be known as necessary if they are proved as such ; therefore the premisses from which they are proved must be necessary. They must also be scientific ; and this implies certain relations between predicate and subject. (1) The predicate must be true of *all* the subject. (2) The predicate must be essential to the subject, or the subject to the predicate. (3) The predicate must be true of the subject considered strictly as itself, not as a member of a higher class. Only so will the conclusion state a commensurately universal relation between predicate and subject (Aristotle shows how we may fail in achieving this result) ; and only so will it be known to be necessary (chs. iv-viii).

It follows that the facts of one science cannot be proved from the principles of another, unless the former is in some sense a sub-genus of the latter ; that facts which are not eternal (*viz.* intermittent phenomena) can be proved and known only in so far as they exhibit eternally necessary connexions ; and that the special principles of single sciences cannot be proved from common principles (chs. ix-x). How

the common principles can be used (1) by science and (2) by dialectic is briefly indicated in ch. xi.

Faulty conclusions may be reached by (1) the right use of premisses which, though appropriate to the subject-genus, state false connexions ; (2) the wrong use of true and appropriate premisses ; (3) the use (right or wrong) of inappropriate premisses. Further, a logical proof may fall short of scientific demonstration if it fails to show the reason as well as the fact ; *e.g.*, if the premisses are not immediate, or if proof is in the second figure where the middle term does not exhibit the cause. (Fact and explanation may even fall under different sciences, if one is in any sense subordinate to the other.) Only the first figure can satisfy the requirements of science by demonstrating the reason as well as the fact (chs. xii-xiv).

There can be immediate negative as well as affirmative premisses—not if either term belongs to a class which excludes the other (nor, it would seem, if both belong to the same class), but only if both are *summa genera* or categories (ch. xv).

### *Forms of Error or Ignorance*

Error with regard to an immediate proposition may be due either to assuming or to falsely inferring its contrary. Aristotle enumerates the forms that such false inference can take, and then shows how it is possible to infer falsely the contrary of a mediated proposition. Lack of a sense-faculty may hinder one's grasp of a general principle (chs. xvi-xviii).

### *There can be no infinite chain of Predication*

The steps of Aristotle's reasoning are not always

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easy to follow, and it may be helpful to set them out in some detail.

How can we be sure that propositions are immediate? Is it not always possible to interpolate middle terms? If so, predication will form an infinite chain.

Since there are predicates which cannot be subjects and subjects which cannot be predicates, we can restate our problem in the form: If a chain of predication in which the predicate (or subject) of one proposition becomes the subject (or predicate) of the next is limited in one direction, can it be infinite in the other? If not, the chain must be finite, and our original question is answered: there cannot be infinite interpolation, because if there could be an infinite number of middles between any two terms in our chain, the chain as a whole would be infinite; which *ex hypothesi* it is not.

To ensure that his proof shall be comprehensive Aristotle shows that if a chain proving an affirmative conclusion must be limited at both ends, so must a chain proving a negative conclusion; because the mediation of a negative premiss always involves (in any figure) the introduction of a new affirmative premiss, so that if the number of affirmative premisses in a chain is limited, so is the number of negative premisses. It remains to prove that an affirmative chain must be limited at both ends.

Aristotle first offers two dialectical proofs. (1) In strict predication as it is used by the sciences the subject is a substance, which (not being itself predicable) is the downward limit of predication. From this extend upward chains of predication (whether of essential attributes, properties or accidents) terminating in the categories, which are the upward

limit ; they are finite in number, and so are the attributes in any category ; therefore there can be no infinite chain.

(2) The conclusion of any chain of propositions can be known only if it is proved ; but if the chain is infinite it cannot be traversed and proof is impossible. Therefore, unless the claim of certainty made by science is to be abandoned, the chain cannot be infinite.

(3) The third proof is called analytical as being based upon arguments proper to demonstrative science. Essential attributes (with which alone science is concerned) either are elements in the definition of their subject or include their subject in their own definition. Catenary predication to infinity of either kind of attribute would entail definition containing an infinite number of elements, and this, as Aristotle has observed (84 a 7), is impossible (chs. xix-xxii).

Two corollaries follow : (1) that an attribute is not necessarily to be proved common to two subjects in virtue of something else common to them—this would result in an infinity of middle terms ; (2) to prove a connexion we must pack the interval by selecting middle terms that give a chain of immediate premisses, whether affirmative or negative (ch. xxiii).

### *Sundry comparisons and distinctions*

Aristotle now discusses at some length the respective merits of universal and particular demonstration, and shows that on many grounds the former is superior. Similarly, affirmative is superior to negative demonstration, and ostensive proof to *reductio ad impossibile* (chs. xxiv-xxvi). Next he shows (1) on what grounds



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one science is to be preferred to another, and (2) how one science may be distinguished from another (chs. xxvii-xxviii).

The rest of the book (except ch. xxxii, which consists of arguments to show that syllogisms cannot all have the same premisses) touches upon various deviations from or approximations to scientific knowledge. First we are shown that there may be more than one proof (but not scientific proof) of the same conclusion ; then that there is demonstration (in some sense) of connexions which are not invariable. Finally, knowledge is contrasted with sense-perception and opinion, and "quickness of wit" is mentioned as a special flair for apprehending causes (chs. xxix-xxxiv).

### *Demonstration and Definition*

In the second book Aristotle turns to definition. Difficulties begin as soon as he enunciates the "four kinds of question" which science tries to answer : τὸ ὅτι, τὸ διότι, εἰ ἔστί, τί ἐστίν. "The fact, the reason, whether it is, what it is" ; it seems clear from Aristotle's first examples that his questions are (1) Is X Y ? (2) Why is X Y ? (3) Does X exist ? (4) What is X ?—X being a substance (centaur, god, man). But when he goes on to say that in every case we are looking for a middle term or cause, doubts arise ; because it is not obviously true that when we ask whether a substance exists, or what it is, we are inquiring for its cause. It is true that every substance has its place in the natural order, and that it is what it is for some natural purpose ; but to judge from the examples which follow in ch. ii, that is not the sort of cause that Aristotle has in mind ; he has already turned his attention to attributes and events, with

which the rest of his discussion is chiefly concerned. It seems, then, that the opening formula, designed to be comprehensive, is misleading, and the questions resolve themselves into two : Is  $X \ Y$  ? and Why is  $X \ Y$  ? The implication is that definition should be causal ; we shall see later how Aristotle develops this view (chs. i-ii).

There follows an aporematic survey of problems connected with demonstration and definition. Among the conclusions tentatively drawn are (1) that the two operations are quite distinct, (2) that a definition cannot be proved (*a*) by syllogism or (*b*) by division or (*c*) hypothetically, (3) that definition proves nothing, and (4) that neither demonstration nor definition enables us to know the essence of a thing (chs. iii-vii).

Aristotle now begins to inquire how definition really is related to demonstration. Bare knowledge that a given event, *e.g.*, eclipse, exists leads to nothing ; but if we once grasp by induction what sort of thing it is, *i.e.* to what genus it belongs, we can then look for the cause that explains why that generic attribute belongs to the subject. Any middle term that establishes an actual connexion between attribute and subject will prove that the event takes place or exists ; thus we can prove that privation of light (the genus of eclipse) applies to the moon ; and this by re-arrangement gives (1) the crude verbal definition that eclipse is privation of light of the moon. But if we can prove the attribute of the subject by immediate premisses through one or more middle terms we can, by a re-arrangement of the whole demonstration, reach (2) a causal definition, *viz.*, that eclipse is a privation of the light of the moon by such-and-such

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a cause or causes. Thus, although definition cannot be demonstrated, we can reach it by the help of demonstration (ch. viii).

These are the two methods by which the definitions of attributes and events can be exhibited. There is a third kind of definition—that of substances and the primary subjects of the sciences—which can only be directly apprehended or assumed (chs. ix-x).

### *Inference and Causation*

From considering the place of cause in definition Aristotle now turns to discuss certain problems of causation in their bearing upon demonstration. First he tries to show how each type of cause can stand as middle term. The types are not the usual four; the place of the material cause (which is clearly inappropriate) is taken by the necessitating condition or eternal ground, which operates as a cause in mathematical reasoning. It cannot be said that Aristotle's arguments are always convincing; in fact, it is sometimes hard to be sure what he is trying to prove. But his general contention can be justified in so far as all the other three can be regarded as aspects of the formal cause and therefore part of the essence (ch. xi).

Turning next to deal with the causation of events, Aristotle begins by considering events (such as eclipse or the formation of ice) in which cause and effect are complementary aspects of the same process, and rightly says that here cause and effect are simultaneous. But causes frequently appear to precede their effects in time. Assuming that in such a case the cause and effect are single events separated by an interval of time, Aristotle argues that although

the earlier can be inferred from the later, the later cannot be inferred from the earlier event ; because during the interval it will not be true to say that the later event has happened, or even that it will happen ; therefore the earlier does not directly imply the later. What then is the bond of connexion between a completed event and another subsequent event ? Aristotle approaches the problem along the lines of his discussions of time and continuity in *Physics* IV and VI, and arrives at no satisfactory conclusion. This is hardly surprising ; for he appears to confuse a past or completed event with the completion of a process, which is an indivisible limit, and therefore cannot be contiguous either with another completion or with a process. From this he seems to infer (though he has not proved that two processes cannot be contiguous) that no two events can be contiguous. This naturally makes it doubtful whether in reasoning from effect to cause we can ever reach immediate premisses (ch. xii).

(But the whole of Aristotle's reasoning rests upon a false assumption. Events are not discrete units ; they are merely such portions of the continuous world-process as we choose to isolate in thought because, for a particular purpose, it suits us to consider them as units. There is no *actual* completion—or beginning—of any such " event " ; only the limit set to it in our minds. When we relate two such " events " as cause and effect we are really isolating a minute section of the world-process and trying to trace the connexions that traverse it in so far as they link a particular aspect of the " event " regarded as cause to the " event " regarded as effect. But (1) we beg the whole question if we assume as the *whole*



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cause what is only one factor or stage in the process ; the *whole* cause is the sum of all the connexions viewed from one direction, and the *whole* effect is the same viewed from the opposite direction : in fact, the question of an interval does not arise ; (2) unless the section that we are examining is infinitesimally small the connexions will be so complex that some at least will escape our knowledge or attention, and so give the impression of an interval.

I hope that I make my general meaning plain ; my excuse for the disquisition is Ross's remark on p. 80 of his introduction : "Aristotle is clearly conscious of the difficulty which everyone must feel if he asks the question why a cause precedes its effect ; for it is hard to see how a mere lapse of time can be necessary for the occurrence of an event when the other conditions are already present ; this is a mystery which has never been explained." Unless I misunderstand him utterly, the mystery (if such it is) is explicable along the lines which I have indicated : there is no "mere lapse of time" ; as soon as *all* "the other conditions are already present" the so-called effect follows as part of the same continuous process.)

### *Definition, Division and Systematization*

After noting the possibility of cyclic sequence and of reasoning about that which happens usually but not invariably, Aristotle returns to complete his account of definition. He has shown in ch. viii how to reach definitions of attributes ; now he explains how to do the same for the primary subjects of a given science. We take one of the *infimae species* and look for all the attributes within the genus that apply to the whole of that species and to others as well ;

collectively these attributes will be commensurate with the species and will give its definition. When we have defined all the *infimae species* we proceed to infer the properties of the more complex species, and so by degrees systematize the genus. In so doing we ensure accuracy and completeness by the use of dichotomic division. In defining we must move upwards from narrower to wider terms, because this is both the easier way and the only way in which to avoid ambiguity. On the other hand, when we come to study the problems of a given science we should work downwards from genus to species. In so doing we must be careful to distinguish species correctly, even if there are no ready-made names to fit them. Several problems may have a common explanation, and the solution of one problem may lead to the solution of another (chs. xiii-xv).

This suggests the question whether there can be more than one cause of the same effect. Cause and effect certainly imply one another, but they are not reciprocal causes ; the cause explains the effect, but the effect does not explain the cause. In general, if an attribute belongs to the whole of a subject, it must do so through a cause that is commensurate with that attribute. But can the same attribute belong to different subjects through different middle terms ? Aristotle first points out that the attribute may be the same only by equivocation, and then the causes are different ; or both attribute and subject may be the same by analogy, and then so is the middle term. But it is also possible, within the same genus, for different species to have the same attribute. When this is so, the attribute is connected to each subject by two middle terms ; the first, which is

## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS

nearer to the attribute and definitory of it, is the same for each ; the other, which connects the common middle to the separate subjects, is different for each. Thus in so far as there is a different middle term for each species, there is more than one cause (chs. xvi-xviii).

There remains the question for whose answer Aristotle has repeatedly—by a dramatic instinct—whetted our appetite : How do we apprehend the first principles themselves, which are not susceptible of demonstration ? Is it by scientific knowledge—the same kind of knowledge by which we cognize demonstrable facts—or by a different faculty ? If it is by a different faculty, how is this acquired ? Still dramatic, Aristotle postpones his climax by taking the second point first. The faculty of sense-perception is common to all animals ; but whereas in some the act of perception leaves no lasting impression, in others the impression persists and gives rise to memory ; and (in rational beings) repeated memories produce experience, that is the establishment in the mind of a “ universal ” or general notion, which is the first step in the development of a coherent art or science. When we have once learned to generalize we can advance higher and higher until we reach the most universal concepts of all ; and by the same inductive process we can advance from simple propositions to immediate truths and the axioms themselves. As for the faculty by which we know these, since it cannot be either science or inferior to science, it must be the only other intellectual faculty that is infallible, *viz.*, *νοῦς* or intuition, which supervenes upon our logical processes as a direct vision of the truth (ch. xix).

There are obvious defects in this treatise. One could wish that Aristotle had edited it a little more ; that he had made his meaning a little plainer, and had been more consistent in his use of technical terms. There are hasty statements and misapprehensions as well as deficiencies of knowledge ; and on the positive side it is easy to see (in spite of frequent repudiations) how much is owed to Plato's teaching at the Academy. Nevertheless, the *Posterior Analytics* is the work of a remarkably acute and discriminating mind ; and it is the first systematic attempt to apply logic to the ordering of scientific knowledge. If Aristotle had left us nothing else we should still be greatly in his debt.

### III. MANUSCRIPTS AND OTHER SOURCES

The five oldest manuscripts of the *Posterior Analytics* are :

A Urbinas 35	saec. ix-x ineunt.
B Marcianus 201	an. 955
C Coislinianus 330 (ad 82 a 2)	saec. xi
d Laurentianus 72.5	„ „
n Ambrosianus 490 (L 93)	„ ix

These are the five chosen by Ross to establish his text, and there can be little doubt that they are the most important. Ross has shown that ABCd belong to one family and n to another ; and that, while B is the best representative of its group and in general the most accurate manuscript, n is very often alone in preserving the right reading.

I have occasionally recorded the readings (when



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they seemed to have any evidential value) of six other manuscripts, *viz.* :

D	Parisinus 1843	saec. xiii
M	Marcianus App. iv. 51	?
c	Vaticanus 1024	saec. x-xi
f	Marcianus App. iv. 5	saec. xiv
p	Ambrosianus 535 (M 89)	„
u	Basileensis 54 (F ii. 21)	saec. xii

The commentaries of Philoponus (6th cent.) and Themistius (4th cent.) on both books, and those of Eustratius (about 1100) and an anonymous scholar (of uncertain date) on Book II, sometimes throw some light on the text. A reading implied by any one of these commentators is attributed to him by name, but where they seem to be unanimous I have referred to them collectively as “comm.”.

In the critical apparatus I have only recorded departures from the wording of Bekker's text. I worked from this in the first place, modifying the punctuation as seemed necessary, and referring frequently to the edition of Waitz, which was then without a rival. In this way I established a provisional text incorporating a good many of Waitz's readings and some suggestions of my own. When Ross's edition of the *Analytiks* was published in 1949 I found myself in rather an awkward position. I had completed a first draft of my translation, but there were still many points about which I felt extremely doubtful; and in trying to clear these up I could neither ignore the conclusions of a leading authority nor seem to appropriate them, while if I disagreed with them I must be prepared to defend my conduct. Moreover, the interruption caused by the war, and

## ARISTOTLE

an infinity of unavoidable distractions, had already delayed my work to an exasperating degree. However, it seemed necessary to be realistic, so I carefully read through Ross's text and commentary. In doing so I found, with some natural regret, that he had anticipated most of the suggestions that I had intended to make. In such cases I hope that I have always yielded him full credit for the improvement. Where his reading or interpretation was different from mine, it was generally better ; and I adopted it with proper acknowledgement. There remain a few places in which I still prefer my own view. But I am conscious that I (like all amateur Aristotelians) owe an immense debt to Sir David's profound scholarship and penetrating criticism, which have opened my eyes to many things that I should otherwise have missed. I must also pay tribute to the Oxford Translation by G. R. G. Mure, which I have often consulted and always found helpful and stimulating. Finally, I am greatly obliged to the late Professor J. Tate for clarifying my mind on some difficult points, and to my colleague Miss N. P. Miller for saving me from many inaccuracies. In spite of these aids I cannot claim to have carried out this task even to my own satisfaction. I should have liked to continue the effort ; but it has taken far too long already.

### THE TRADITIONAL MOOD-NAMES

In my notes I have frequently had occasion to use the Latin (or quasi-Latin) names invented by medieval logicians to designate the various moods of syllogism. They are as follows :

First figure : Barbara, Celarent, Darii, Ferio.

## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS

Second figure : Cesare, Camestres, Festino, Baroco.

Third figure : Darapti, Felapton, Disamis, Datisi, Bocardo, Ferison.

For present purposes this list is sufficient ; a fuller one with more detailed information will be found in the introduction to the *Prior Analytics*. Here it is only necessary to understand that in each name the vowels indicate the quantity and quality of the premisses and conclusion : thus A stands for the universal affirmative (All X is Y), E for the universal negative (No X is Y), I for the particular affirmative (Some X is Y), and O for the particular negative (Some X is not Y).

## SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

I append a short list of the principal editions, translations, works of reference and articles that are likely to be helpful in a study of the *Posterior Analytics*.

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# ΑΡΙΣΤΟΤΕΛΟΥΣ ΑΝΑΛΥΤΙΚΩΝ ΤΣΤΕΡΩΝ

## A

- 71 a 1 I. Πᾶσα διδασκαλία καὶ πᾶσα μάθησις διανο-  
ητικὴ ἐκ προϋπαρχούσης γίνεται γνώσεως. φανε-  
ρὸν δὲ τοῦτο θεωροῦσιν ἐπὶ πασῶν· αἱ τε γὰρ  
μαθηματικαὶ τῶν ἐπιστημῶν διὰ τούτου τοῦ τρόπου  
παραγίνονται καὶ τῶν ἄλλων ἐκάστη τεχνῶν.  
5 ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ περὶ τοὺς λόγους οἱ τε διὰ συλλογισ-  
μῶν καὶ οἱ δι' ἐπαγωγῆς· ἀμφότεροι γὰρ διὰ  
προγιγνωσκομένων ποιοῦνται τὴν διδασκαλίαν, οἱ  
μὲν λαμβάνοντες ὡς παρὰ ξυνιέντων, οἱ δὲ δεικ-  
νύντες τὸ καθόλου διὰ τοῦ δῆλον εἶναι τὸ καθ'  
ἕκαστον. ὡς δ' αὖτως καὶ οἱ ῥητορικοὶ συμπεύθου-  
10 σιν· ἢ γὰρ διὰ παραδειγμάτων, ὃ ἐστὶν ἐπαγωγή,  
ἢ δι' ἐνθυμημάτων, ὅπερ ἐστὶ συλλογισμός.  
Διχῶς δ' ἀναγκαῖον προγιγνώσκειν· τὰ μὲν γὰρ

<sup>a</sup> τέχνη is used here, as often, to cover the sense of produc-  
tive (as opposed to theoretical) science; cf. 100 a 9.

<sup>b</sup> Clearly Aristotle is thinking of "dialectic," as a means  
of instruction distinct from science (which seeks only to  
discover and demonstrate the truth) and rhetoric (which aims  
at persuasion by means of probabilities). For Aristotle dia-

# ARISTOTLE'S POSTERIOR ANALYTICS

## BOOK I

I. ALL teaching and learning that involves the use of reason proceeds from pre-existent knowledge. This is evident if we consider all the different branches of learning, because both the mathematical sciences and every other art <sup>a</sup> are acquired in this way. Similarly too with logical arguments,<sup>b</sup> whether syllogistic or inductive; both effect instruction by means of facts already recognized, the former making assumptions as though granted by an intelligent audience, and the latter proving the universal from the self-evident nature of the particular. The means by which rhetorical arguments carry conviction are just the same; for they use either examples,<sup>c</sup> which are a kind of induction, or enthymemes,<sup>d</sup> which are a kind of syllogism.

BOOK I.  
KNOW-  
LEDGE AND  
DEMON-  
STRATION.  
Reasoned  
knowledge  
is always  
based on  
previous  
knowledge.

There are two senses in which previous knowledge This may

lectic is the application of logical methods to argument with a real or imaginary opponent; it is by no means infallible, since neither its premisses nor its conclusions are necessarily true, but (properly used) it can be a useful auxiliary to science.

<sup>c</sup> Cf. *An. Pr.* II. xxiv.

<sup>d</sup> *Ibid.* 70 a 10-24.

71 a

ὅτι ἔστι προϋπολαμβάνειν ἀναγκαῖον, τὰ δὲ τί τὸ  
 λεγόμενον ἔστι ξυνιέναι δεῖ, τὰ δ' ἄμφω, οἷον ὅτι  
 μὲν ἅπαν ἢ φῆσαι ἢ ἀποφῆσαι ἀληθές, ὅτι ἔστι, τὸ  
 15 δὲ τρίγωνον, ὅτι τοδὶ σημαίνει, τὴν δὲ μονάδα  
 ἄμφω, καὶ τί σημαίνει καὶ ὅτι ἔστιν· οὐ γὰρ ὁμοίως  
 τούτων ἕκαστον δῆλον ἡμῖν. ἔστι δὲ γνωρίζειν τὰ  
 μὲν πρότερον γνωρίσαντα,<sup>1</sup> τῶν δὲ καὶ ἅμα λαμ-  
 βάνοντα τὴν γνώσιν, οἷον ὅσα τυγχάνει ὄντα ὑπὸ  
 τὸ καθόλου οὗ<sup>2</sup> ἔχει τὴν γνώσιν· ὅτι μὲν γὰρ πᾶν  
 20 τρίγωνον ἔχει δυσὶν ὀρθαῖς ἴσας προῆδει, ὅτι δὲ  
 τόδε τὸ ἐν τῷ ἡμικυκλίῳ τρίγωνόν ἐστιν ἅμα ἐπ-  
 αγόμενος ἐγνώρισεν (ἐνίων γὰρ τοῦτον τὸν τρόπον  
 ἢ μάθησίς ἐστι, καὶ οὐ διὰ τοῦ μέσου τὸ ἔσχατον  
 γνωρίζεται, ὅσα ἤδη τῶν καθ' ἕκαστα τυγχάνει  
 ὄντα καὶ μὴ καθ' ὑποκειμένου τινός). πρὶν δ'  
 25 ἐπαχθῆναι ἢ λαβεῖν συλλογισμόν τρόπον μὲν τινα  
 ἴσως φατέον ἐπίστασθαι, τρόπον δ' ἄλλον οὐ. ὁ  
 γὰρ μὴ ἤδει εἰ ἔστιν ἀπλῶς, τοῦτο πῶς ἤδει ὅτι  
 δύο ὀρθὰς ἔχει ἀπλῶς; ἀλλὰ δῆλον ὡς ὥδὲ μὲν  
 ἐπίσταται, ὅτι καθόλου ἐπίσταται, ἀπλῶς δὲ οὐκ  
 ἐπίσταται.

Εἰ δὲ μή, τὸ ἐν τῷ Μένωνι ἀπόρημα συμβήσεται·  
 30 ἢ γὰρ οὐδὲν μαθήσεται ἢ ἂ οἶδεν. οὐ γὰρ δὴ ὥς γέ

<sup>1</sup> Ross : γνωρίζοντα codd.<sup>2</sup> Ross : ὦν codd.

<sup>a</sup> Probably we should suppose that the figure is not drawn as a triangle; cf. Heath, *Mathematics in Aristotle*, p. 38.

<sup>b</sup> The attributes of an individual are inferred from a knowledge of the attributes of the species, but the individual itself is directly apprehended as such.

<sup>c</sup> Plato, *Meno* 80 D-E.



## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, I. 1

is necessary. Sometimes it is necessary to assume the *fact* beforehand, and sometimes one must understand the *meaning* of the term ; sometimes both are necessary. *E.g.*, we must assume as a fact that either the assertion or the negation of every statement is true ; and we must know what the term " triangle " means ; and as regards the unit, we must both know what it means and assume that it exists. This is because these truths are not all equally apparent to us. Recognition of a fact may sometimes entail both previous knowledge and knowledge acquired in the act of recognition ; *viz.*, knowledge of the particulars which actually fall under the universal, which is known to us. We knew already that every triangle has the sum of its interior angles equal to two right angles ; but that *this figure* <sup>a</sup> inscribed in the semi-circle is a triangle we recognize only as we are led to relate the particular to the universal (for some things, *viz.*, such as are ultimate particulars not predicable of anything else as subject, are only learnt in this way, *i.e.*, the minor is not recognized by means of the middle term <sup>b</sup>). Before the process of relation is completed or the conclusion drawn, we should presumably say that in one sense the fact is understood and in another it is not. For how could we know in the full sense that the figure contains angles equal to the sum of two right angles if we did not know in the full sense whether it exists ? Clearly we apprehend the fact not absolutely but in the qualified sense that we apprehend a general principle.

Unless we make this distinction, we shall be faced with the dilemma reached in the *Meno* <sup>c</sup> : either one can learn nothing, or one can only learn what is already known. We certainly must not offer the

be knowledge of fact or of meaning.

Previous knowledge distinguished from actualization of potential knowledge.

This is the escape from the dilemma of the *Meno*.

71 a

τινες ἐγχείρουσι λύειν λεκτέον· ἀρ' οἶδας ἅπασαν  
 δυάδα ὅτι ἀρτία ἢ οὐ; φήσαντος δὲ προήνεγκάν  
 τινα δυάδα ἣν οὐκ ᾤετ' εἶναι, ὥστ' οὐδ' ἀρτίαν.  
 λύουσι γὰρ οὐ φάσκοντες εἰδέναι πᾶσαν δυάδα ἀρ-

71 b

τίαν οὖσαν, ἀλλ' ἦν ἴσασιν ὅτι δυάς. καίτοι ἴσασι  
 μὲν οὐπερ τὴν ἀπόδειξιν ἔχουσι καὶ οὐ ἔλαβον, ἔλα-  
 βον δ' οὐχὶ παντός οὐδ' ἂν εἰδῶσιν ὅτι τρίγωνον ἢ ὅτι  
 ἀριθμός, ἀλλ' ἀπλῶς κατὰ παντός ἀριθμοῦ καὶ τρι-  
 γώνου· οὐδεμία γὰρ πρότασις λαμβάνεται τοιαύτη,  
 5 ὅτι ὃν σὺ οἶδας ἀριθμὸν ἢ ὃ σὺ οἶδας εὐθύγραμμον,  
 ἀλλὰ κατὰ παντός. ἀλλ' οὐδὲν (οἶμαι) κωλύει ὁ  
 μανθάνει ἔστιν ὥς ἐπίστασθαι, ἔστι δ' ὥς ἀγνοεῖν.  
 ἄτοπον γὰρ οὐκ εἰ οἶδέ πως ὁ μανθάνει, ἀλλ' εἰ ὥδί,  
 οἷον ἦ μανθάνει καὶ ὥς.

II. Ἐπίστασθαι δὲ οἴομεθ' ἕκαστον ἀπλῶς, ἀλλὰ  
 10 μὴ τὸν σοφιστικὸν τρόπον τὸν κατὰ συμβεβηκός,  
 ὅταν τὴν τ' αἰτίαν οἴωμεθα γινώσκειν δι' ἣν τὸ  
 πρᾶγμα ἐστίν, ὅτι ἐκείνου αἰτία ἐστί, καὶ μὴ ἐν-  
 δέχεσθαι τοῦτ' ἄλλως ἔχειν. δῆλον τοίνυν ὅτι  
 τοιοῦτόν τι τὸ ἐπίστασθαί ἐστι· καὶ γὰρ οἱ μὴ  
 ἐπιστάμενοι καὶ οἱ ἐπιστάμενοι οἱ μὲν οἶονται αὐτοὶ  
 15 οὕτως ἔχειν, οἱ δ' ἐπιστάμενοί καὶ ἔχουσιν· ὥστε

<sup>a</sup> The reference is unknown.

<sup>b</sup> The sophist's knowledge is called "accidental" because, not knowing the species as such, but only as qualified by accidental attributes, he has no conception of what is essential to it.

explanation by which certain thinkers <sup>a</sup> attempt to solve the difficulty. Supposing that a man is asked "Do you or do you not know that every pair is even?" When he says "Yes," his opponents produce some pair which he did not know to exist, and therefore did not know to be even. These thinkers solve the difficulty by saying that they do not know that every pair is even, but only that such things as they know to be pairs are even. But what they know to be even is that which they have proved to be such, *i.e.*, that which they have taken as the subject of their premiss: and that is not everything which they know to be a triangle or a number, but every number and every triangle, without qualification. No premiss is ever assumed with such a term as "what you know to be a number" or "what you know to be a rectilinear figure"; the predication applies to every instance of the subject. But I presume that there is no reason why a man should not in one sense know, and in another not know, that which he is learning. The absurdity consists not in his knowing in some qualified sense that which he learns, but in his knowing it in a certain particular sense, *viz.*, in the exact way and manner in which he learns it.

II. We consider that we have unqualified knowledge of anything (as contrasted with the accidental knowledge of the sophist) <sup>b</sup> when we believe that we know (i) that the cause from which the fact results is the cause of that fact, and (ii) that the fact cannot be otherwise. Clearly knowledge is something of this sort; for both those who do not know and those who do know agree on the subject; but whereas the former merely think that they are in the condition described above, the latter are actually in it. Hence

Absolute  
knowledge

71 b

οὐ ἀπλῶς ἔστιν ἐπιστήμη, τοῦτ' ἀδύνατον ἄλλως ἔχειν.

Εἰ μὲν οὖν καὶ ἕτερος ἔστι τοῦ ἐπίστασθαι τρόπος ὕστερον ἐροῦμεν, φαμέν δὲ καὶ δι' ἀποδείξεως εἰδέναι. ἀπόδειξιν δὲ λέγω συλλογισμόν ἐπιστημονικόν· ἐπιστημονικόν δὲ λέγω καθ' ὃν τῷ ἔχειν αὐτὸν ἐπιστάμεθα.

- 20 Εἰ τοίνυν ἐστὶ τὸ ἐπίστασθαι οἷον ἔθεμεν, ἀνάγκη καὶ τὴν ἀποδεικτικὴν ἐπιστήμην ἐξ ἀληθῶν τ' εἶναι καὶ πρώτων καὶ ἀμέσων καὶ γνωριμωτέρων καὶ προτέρων καὶ αἰτίων τοῦ συμπεράσματος· οὕτω γὰρ ἔσονται καὶ αἱ ἀρχαὶ οἰκείαι τοῦ δεικνυμένου. συλλογισμὸς μὲν γὰρ ἔσται καὶ ἄνευ τούτων, ἀπό-  
25 δειξις δ' οὐκ ἔσται· οὐ γὰρ ποιήσει ἐπιστήμην.

Ἀληθὴ μὲν οὖν δεῖ εἶναι, ὅτι οὐκ ἔστι τὸ μὴ ὄν ἐπίστασθαι, οἷον ὅτι ἡ διάμετρος σύμμετρος. ἐκ πρώτων δ' ἀναποδείκτων, ὅτι οὐκ ἐπιστήσεται μὴ ἔχων ἀπόδειξιν αὐτῶν· τὸ γὰρ ἐπίστασθαι ὦν ἀπόδειξις ἔστι μὴ κατὰ συμβεβηκὸς τὸ ἔχειν ἀπόδειξιν  
30 ἔστιν. αἰτία τε καὶ γνωριμώτερα δεῖ εἶναι καὶ πρότερα, αἷτια μὲν ὅτι τότε ἐπιστάμεθα ὅταν τὴν αἰτίαν εἰδῶμεν, καὶ πρότερα, εἴπερ αἷτια, καὶ προ-  
γινγνωσκόμενα οὐ μόνον τὸν ἕτερον τρόπον τῷ ξυνιέναι, ἀλλὰ καὶ τῷ εἰδέναι ὅτι ἔστιν.

Πρότερα δ' ἐστὶ καὶ γνωριμώτερα διχῶς· οὐ γὰρ ταῦτόν πρότερον τῇ φύσει καὶ πρὸς ἡμᾶς πρότερον,

<sup>a</sup> In ch. iii and Book II, ch. xix.

<sup>b</sup> Cf. 71 a 11 ff.



## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, I. II

if any fact is the object of unqualified knowledge, that fact cannot be otherwise than it is.

Whether there is any other method of knowing will be discussed later.<sup>a</sup> Our contention now is that we do at any rate obtain knowledge by demonstration. By demonstration I mean a syllogism which produces scientific knowledge, in other words one which enables us to know by the mere fact that we grasp it.

is acquired  
(in one way)  
by demon-  
stration.

Now if knowledge is such as we have assumed, demonstrative knowledge must proceed from premisses which are true, primary, immediate, better known than, prior to, and causative of the conclusion. On these conditions only will the first principles be properly applicable to the fact which is to be proved. Syllogism indeed will be possible without these conditions, but not demonstration; for the result will not be knowledge.

The pre-  
misses of  
demonstra-  
tion.

The premisses, then, must be true statements; because it is impossible to know that which is contrary to fact, *e.g.*, that the diagonal of a square is commensurable with the sides. They must be primary and indemonstrable, because otherwise we shall not know them unless we have proof of them; for to know (otherwise than accidentally) that which is capable of proof implies that one has proof of it. They must be causative, better known and prior: causative, because we only have knowledge of a thing when we know its cause; prior, inasmuch as they are causative; and already known, not merely in the one<sup>b</sup> sense that their meaning is understood, but also in the sense that they are known as facts.

There are two senses in which things are prior and more knowable. That which is prior in nature is not the same as that which is prior in relation to us, and

Sundry dis-  
tinctions  
and defini-  
tions.

72<sup>a</sup> οὐδὲ γνωριμώτερον καὶ ἡμῖν γνωριμώτερον. λέγω δὲ πρὸς ἡμᾶς μὲν πρότερα καὶ γνωριμώτερα τὰ ἐγγύτερον τῆς αἰσθήσεως, ἀπλῶς δὲ πρότερα καὶ γνωριμώτερα τὰ πορρώτερον. ἔστι δὲ πορρωτάτω  
 5 μὲν τὰ καθόλου μάλιστα, ἐγγυτάτω δὲ τὰ καθ' ἑ-  
 καστα· καὶ ἀντίκειται ταῦτ' ἀλλήλοις.

Ἐκ πρώτων δ' ἐστὶ τὸ ἐξ ἀρχῶν οἰκείων· ταῦτό γὰρ λέγω πρῶτον καὶ ἀρχήν. ἀρχὴ δ' ἐστὶν ἀπο-  
 δείξεως πρότασις ἄμεσος, ἄμεσος δὲ ἥς μὴ ἔστιν  
 ἄλλη προτέρα. πρότασις δ' ἐστὶν ἀποφάνσεως τὸ  
 ἕτερον μόριον, ἐν καθ' ενός, διαλεκτικὴ μὲν ἢ  
 10 ὁμοίως λαμβάνουσα ὅποτερον οὖν, ἀποδεικτικὴ δὲ ἢ  
 ὠρισμένως θάτερον, ὅτι ἀληθές. ἀπόφανσις δὲ ἀντι-  
 φάσεως ὅποτερον οὖν μόριον. ἀντίφασις δὲ ἀντίθε-  
 σις ἥς οὐκ ἔστι μεταξὺ καθ' αὐτήν. μόριον δ'  
 ἀντιφάσεως τὸ μὲν τὶ κατὰ τινὸς κατάφασις, τὸ  
 15 δὲ τὶ ἀπὸ τινὸς ἀπόφασις. ἀμέσου δ' ἀρχῆς συλ-  
 λογιστικῆς θέσιν μὲν λέγω ἣν μὴ ἔστι δεῖξαι μηδ'  
 ἀνάγκη ἔχειν τὸν μαθησόμενόν τι· ἣν δ' ἀνάγκη  
 ἔχειν τὸν ὅτι οὖν μαθησόμενον, ἀξίωμα· ἔστι γὰρ  
 ἓν ἢ τοιαῦτα· τοῦτο γὰρ μάλιστ' ἐπὶ τοῖς τοιούτοις  
 εἰώθαμεν ὄνομα λέγειν. θέσεως δ' ἢ μὲν ὅποτε-  
 20 ρονοῦν τῶν μορίων τῆς ἀποφάνσεως<sup>1</sup> λαμβάνουσα,  
 οἷον λέγω τὸ εἶναί τι ἢ μὴ εἶναί τι, ὑπόθεσις, ἢ δ'

<sup>1</sup> ἀντιφάσεως n, Ross.

<sup>a</sup> Cf. *Met.* 1029 b 3 ff.

<sup>b</sup> Or simply "starting-point."

<sup>c</sup> i.e., it is either affirmative or negative.

<sup>d</sup> The dialectician is equally prepared to accept "A is B" or "A is not B" as the object of his attack.

## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, I. II

that which is <naturally> more knowable is not the same as that which is more knowable by us. By "prior" or "more knowable" in relation to us I mean that which is nearer to our perception, and by "prior" or "more knowable" in the absolute sense I mean that which is further from it. The most universal concepts are furthest from our perception, and particulars are nearest to it<sup>a</sup>; and these are opposite to one another.

To argue from primary premisses is to argue from appropriate first principles; for by "primary premiss" and "first principle" I mean the same thing. The first principle<sup>b</sup> of a demonstration is an immediate premiss; and an immediate premiss is one which has no other premiss prior to it. A premiss is one or the other part of a proposition,<sup>c</sup> and consists of one term predicated of another. If dialectical, it assumes either part indifferently<sup>d</sup>; if demonstrative, it definitely assumes that one part is true. A proposition is either part of a contradiction. A contradiction is an opposition which of its very nature excludes any middle. That part of a contradiction which affirms something of something else is an affirmation; that which denies something of something else is a negation. I apply the term *thesis* to an immediate indemonstrable first principle of syllogism the grasp of which is not necessary for the acquisition of certain kinds of knowledge; but that which must be grasped if any knowledge is to be acquired, I call an *axiom*; for there are certain things of this nature and we are accustomed to apply this name especially to them. A thesis which assumes one or the other part of a proposition, *i.e.*, that something does, or does not exist, is a *hypothesis*; a thesis which does

72 a

ἄνευ τούτου ὀρισμός· ὁ γὰρ ὀρισμός θέσις μὲν  
 ἐστὶ· τίθεται γὰρ ὁ ἀριθμητικὸς μονάδα τὸ ἀδιαίρε-  
 τον εἶναι κατὰ τὸ ποσόν· ὑπόθεσις δ' οὐκ ἐστὶ· τὸ  
 25 γὰρ τί ἐστὶ μονὰς καὶ τὸ εἶναι μονάδα οὐ ταυτόν.

Ἐπεὶ δὲ δεῖ πιστεύειν τε καὶ εἰδέναι τὸ πρᾶγμα  
 τῷ τοιοῦτον ἔχειν συλλογισμόν ὃν καλοῦμεν ἀπό-  
 δεῖξιν, ἐστὶ δ' οὗτος τῷ ταδὶ<sup>1</sup> εἶναι ἐξ ὧν ὁ συλ-  
 λογισμός, ἀνάγκη μὴ μόνον προγινώσκειν τὰ  
 πρῶτα, ἢ πάντα ἢ ἓνια, ἀλλὰ καὶ μᾶλλον· αἰεὶ γὰρ  
 30 δι' ὃ ὑπάρχει ἕκαστον, ἐκείνω<sup>2</sup> μᾶλλον ὑπάρχει,  
 οἷον δι' ὃ φιλοῦμεν, ἐκείνο φίλον μᾶλλον· ὥστ'  
 εἴπερ ἴσμεν διὰ τὰ πρῶτα καὶ πιστεύομεν, κακεῖνα  
 ἴσμεν τε καὶ πιστεύομεν μᾶλλον, ὅτι δι' ἐκείνα καὶ  
 τὰ ὕστερον. οὐχ οἷόν τε δὲ πιστεύειν μᾶλλον ὧν  
 οἶδεν ἢ μὴ τυγχάνει μήτε εἰδὼς μήτε βέλτιον δια-  
 35 κείμενος ἢ εἰ ἐτύγχανεν εἰδὼς. συμβήσεται δὲ  
 τοῦτο εἰ μὴ τις προγνώσεται τῶν δι' ἀπόδειξιν  
 πιστευόντων· μᾶλλον γὰρ ἀνάγκη πιστεύειν ταῖς  
 ἀρχαῖς ἢ πάσαις ἢ τισὶ τοῦ συμπεράσματος. τὸν  
 δὲ μέλλοντα ἔξιν τὴν ἐπιστήμην τὴν δι' ἀποδείξεως  
 οὐ μόνον δεῖ τὰς ἀρχὰς μᾶλλον γνωρίζειν καὶ μᾶλ-

<sup>1</sup> ταδὶ n, Ross : τὰδ'.

<sup>2</sup> ἐκείνω Ross, habent comm. : ἐκείνο codd.

<sup>a</sup> The latter part of this attempt to systematize terminology seems rather abortive. Elsewhere (*e.g.* 76 b 23 ff.) a *ὑπόθεσις* is not necessarily indemonstrable, and *θέσις* does not seem to be used technically at all. It is even difficult to be sure what Aristotle includes under *ἀξιώματα*. From a comparison of 76 b 11-22, 77 a 26-34, 88 a 31-b 29 it would seem that the term is convertible with *κοινὰ ἀρχαί* or *τὰ κοινά*, and covers not only principles like the Law of Contradiction, which are really "common," but also others, like the mathe-



## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, I. 11

not do this is a definition. A definition is a kind of thesis (or laying-down), because the arithmetician lays it down that to be a unit is to be quantitatively indivisible ; but it is not a hypothesis, because to define the nature of a unit is not the same as to assert its existence.<sup>a</sup>

Now since the required condition of our knowledge or conviction of a fact consists in grasping a syllogism of the kind which we call demonstration, and since the syllogism depends upon the truth of its premisses, it is necessary not merely to know the primary premisses—either all or some of them—beforehand, but to know them better than the conclusion. For that which causes an attribute to apply to a subject always possesses that attribute in a still greater degree ; e.g., that which causes us to love something is itself still dearer to us. Hence if the primary premisses are the cause of our knowledge and conviction, we know and are convinced of them also in a higher degree, since they cause our knowledge of all that follows from them. But to believe in anything more than in the things which we know, if we neither actually know it nor are in a better situation than if we actually knew it, is impossible ; yet this is what will happen if anyone whose conviction rests upon demonstration is to have no prior knowledge ; because we must believe in the first principles (some if not all of them) more than in the conclusion. And if a man is to possess the knowledge which is effected by demonstration, not only must he recognize and

The primary premisses must be known before and better than the conclusion.

matal axioms about equals, which are at once common and special to a particular group of sciences. For a discussion of the use of such terms in logic and mathematics see H. D. P. Lee in *C.Q.* xxix, pp. 113-124, and Heath, *Mathematics in Aristotle*, pp. 53-57.

72 b λον αὐταῖς πιστεύειν ἢ τῷ δεικνυμένῳ, ἀλλὰ μὴδ' ἄλλο αὐτῷ πιστότερον εἶναι μὴδὲ γνωριμώτερον τῶν ἀντικειμένων ταῖς ἀρχαῖς ἐξ ὧν ἔσται συλλογισμὸς ὁ τῆς ἐναντίας ἀπάτης, εἴπερ δεῖ τὸν ἐπιστάμενον ἀπλῶς ἀμετάπειστον εἶναι.

5 III. Ἐνίοις μὲν οὖν διὰ τὸ δεῖν τὰ πρῶτα ἐπίστασθαι οὐ δοκεῖ ἐπιστήμη εἶναι, τοῖς δ' εἶναι μὲν, πάντων μέντοι ἀποδείξεις<sup>1</sup> εἶναι. ὧν οὐδέτερον οὐτ' ἀληθὲς οὐτ' ἀναγκαῖον. οἱ μὲν γὰρ ὑποθέμενοι μὴ εἶναι ὅλως ἐπίστασθαι, οὗτοι εἰς ἄπειρον ἀξιουῖσιν ἀνάγεσθαι ὡς οὐκ ἂν ἐπισταμένους τὰ ὕστερα διὰ  
10 τὰ πρότερα, ὧν μὴ ἔστι πρῶτα, ὀρθῶς λέγοντες. ἀδύνατον γὰρ τὰ ἄπειρα διελθεῖν. εἴ τε ἴσταται καὶ εἰσὶν ἀρχαί, ταύτας ἀγνώστους εἶναι ἀποδείξεως γε μὴ οὔσης αὐτῶν, ὅπερ φασὶν εἶναι τὸ ἐπίστασθαι μόνον. εἰ δὲ μὴ ἔστι τὰ πρῶτα εἰδέναί, οὐδὲ τὰ ἐκ  
15 τούτων εἶναι ἐπίστασθαι ἀπλῶς οὐδὲ κυρίως, ἀλλ' ἐξ ὑποθέσεως, εἰ ἐκεῖνα ἔστιν. οἱ δὲ περὶ μὲν τοῦ ἐπίστασθαι ὁμολογοῦσι. δι' ἀποδείξεως γὰρ εἶναι μόνον. ἀλλὰ πάντων εἶναι ἀπόδειξιν οὐδὲν κωλύειν. ἐνδέχεσθαι γὰρ κύκλῳ γίγνεσθαι τὴν ἀπόδειξιν καὶ ἐξ ἀλλήλων.

Ἡμεῖς δὲ φάμεν οὔτε πᾶσαν ἐπιστήμην ἀπο-  
20 δεικτικὴν εἶναι, ἀλλὰ τὴν τῶν ἀμέσων ἀναπόδεικτον (καὶ τοῦθ' ὅτι ἀναγκαῖον, φανερόν. εἰ γὰρ ἀνάγκη

<sup>1</sup> ἀπόδειξις d.

<sup>a</sup> Probably Antisthenes; see Maier, *Syllogistik* II. ii. 15, n. 2.

<sup>b</sup> Possibly "certain followers of Xenocrates"; Cherniss, *Aristotle's Criticism of Plato and the Academy*, I. 68.

## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, I. II-III

believe in the first principles more than in that which is being proved, but nothing which is opposed to the first principles and from which will result a syllogism of the contrary error, must be more credible or better known to him than those principles ; since one who has absolute knowledge should be unshakable in his belief.

III. The necessity of knowing the primary truths has led some persons <sup>a</sup> to think that there is no knowledge, and others, <sup>b</sup> admitting the possibility of knowledge, to think that all facts are demonstrable. Neither of these views is true or logically unavoidable. The former school, who assume that there is no knowledge at all, claim that there is an infinite regress, on the ground that we cannot know posterior by prior truths unless the latter themselves depend upon primary truths (in which they are right ; for it is impossible to traverse an infinite series) ; while if the series comes to an end, and there are first principles, they are unknowable, since they do not admit of demonstration, which these thinkers hold to be the sole condition of knowledge ; and if it is not possible to know the primary truths, neither is it possible to know in the strict and absolute sense that the inferences drawn from them are true ; we can only know them hypothetically, by assuming that the former are true. The other school agrees with this one as regards the conditions of knowledge, for they hold that it can only be secured by demonstration ; but they maintain that there is no reason why there should not be demonstration of everything, since the demonstration may be circular or reciprocal.

Two false views : (1) that scientific knowledge is impossible, (2) that all truths are demonstrable by circular proof.

We, however, hold that not all knowledge is demonstrative ; the knowledge of immediate premisses is not by demonstration. It is evident that this must

Answer to (1). There is no infinite regress,

μὲν ἐπίστασθαι τὰ πρότερα καὶ ἐξ ὧν ἡ ἀπόδειξις,  
 ἴσταται δέ ποτε τὰ ἄμεσα, ταῦτ' ἀναπόδεικτα  
 ἀνάγκη εἶναι)—ταῦτά τ' οὖν οὕτω λέγομεν, καὶ οὐ  
 μόνον ἐπιστήμην ἀλλὰ καὶ ἀρχὴν ἐπιστήμης εἶναι  
 25 τινά φαμεν ἢ τοὺς ὅρους γνωρίζομεν.

Κύκλω δ' ὅτι ἀδύνατον ἀποδείκνυσθαι ἀπλῶς,  
 δῆλον, εἴπερ ἐκ προτέρων δεῖ τὴν ἀπόδειξιν εἶναι  
 καὶ γνωριμωτέρων· ἀδύνατον γάρ ἐστι τὰ αὐτὰ τῶν  
 αὐτῶν ἅμα πρότερα καὶ ὕστερα εἶναι, εἰ μὴ τὸν  
 ἕτερον τρόπον, οἷον τὰ μὲν πρὸς ἡμᾶς τὰ δ' ἀπλῶς,  
 30 ὥνπερ τρόπον ἢ ἐπαγωγὴ ποιεῖ γνώριμον. εἰ δ'  
 οὕτως, οὐκ ἂν εἴη τὸ ἀπλῶς εἰδέναι καλῶς ὠρις-  
 μένον, ἀλλὰ διττόν· ἢ οὐχ ἀπλῶς ἢ ἑτέρα ἀπόδειξις  
 γιγνομένη ἐκ τῶν ἡμῖν γνωριμωτέρων.

Συμβαίνει δὲ τοῖς λέγουσι κύκλω τὴν ἀπόδειξιν  
 εἶναι οὐ μόνον τὸ νῦν εἰρημένον, ἀλλ' οὐδὲν ἄλλο  
 λέγειν ἢ ὅτι τοῦτ' ἐστὶν εἰ τοῦτ' ἐστὶν· οὕτω δέ  
 35 πάντα ῥάδιον δεῖξαι. δῆλον δ' ὅτι τοῦτο συμβαίνει  
 τριῶν ὅρων τεθέντων· τὸ μὲν γὰρ διὰ πολλῶν ἢ  
 δι' ὀλίγων ἀνακάμπτειν φάναι οὐδὲν διαφέρει, δι'

<sup>a</sup> Viz. νοῦς or intuition ; see Book II, ch. xix.

<sup>b</sup> For this sense of ὅρος (= ἀρχή) cf. *Eth. Nic.* 1142 a 26, 1143 a 36, b 2.

<sup>c</sup> Which proceeds from that which is "prior to us" to that which is "prior in nature."

<sup>d</sup> As based on "prior" premisses (71 b 22).

<sup>e</sup> Although the "terms" doubtless represent propositions, I suspect that (*pace* Ross *ad loc.*) Aristotle here really means "terms" by ὅροι, because he is primarily concerned with the form of the argument. He says that circular proof claims to establish by the propositions "if A is true, B is true" and "if B is true, A is true" (using two terms only) the absolute truth of A ; the fallacy can be easily seen if the argument is cast in the form of a normal syllogism (using three terms), in which the propositions "if A is true, B is true" and "if B



## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, I. III

be so ; for if it is necessary to know the prior premisses from which the demonstration proceeds, and if the regress ends with the immediate premisses, the latter must be indemonstrable. Such is our contention on this point. Indeed we hold not only that scientific knowledge is possible, but that there is a definite first principle of knowledge <sup>a</sup> by which we recognize ultimate truths.<sup>b</sup>

because not all knowledge is demonstrative.

Demonstration in the absolute sense is obviously impossible by the circular method ; that is, if demonstration must proceed from premisses which are prior and better known ; for the same things cannot be at once prior and posterior to the same things, except in different senses,—I mean the distinction between “ prior to us ” and “ absolutely prior ”—with which we become familiar through induction.<sup>c</sup> In this case our definition of absolute knowledge <sup>d</sup> will be unsatisfactory, because it will have a double meaning. But presumably the other mode of demonstration, proceeding from that which is better known to us, is not demonstration in the absolute sense.

Answer to (2). Circular proof (a) is not scientific,

Those who profess that demonstration is circular are faced not only by the consequence just described, but also by the following : their theory simply amounts to this, that a thing is so if it is so ; and it is easy to prove anything by this method. That this is all that follows will be clearly seen if we take three terms ; for it makes no difference whether we say that a circular proof is effected through many or few terms, provided that there are not fewer than two.<sup>e</sup>

(b) proves nothing new,

is true, C is true ” give the conclusion “ *if A is true, C is true* ” ; because similarly the conclusion of “ *if A is true, B is true* ” and “ *if B is true, A is true* ” is “ *if A is true, A is true,* ” which proves nothing.

72 b

ὀλίγων δ' ἢ δυοῖν. ὅταν γὰρ τοῦ Α ὄντος ἐξ ἀνάγκης ἢ τὸ Β, τούτου δὲ τὸ Γ, τοῦ Α ὄντος ἔσται τὸ Γ. εἰ δὴ τοῦ Α ὄντος ἀνάγκη τὸ Β εἶναι, τούτου

73 a δ' ὄντος τὸ Α (τοῦτο γὰρ ἦν τὸ κύκλω), κείσθω τὸ Α ἐφ' οὗ τὸ Γ. τὸ οὖν τοῦ Β ὄντος τὸ Α εἶναι λέγειν ἐστὶ τὸ Γ εἶναι λέγειν, τοῦτο δ' ὅτι τοῦ Α ὄντος τὸ Γ ἐστί· τὸ δὲ Γ τῷ Α τὸ αὐτό. ὥστε  
5 συμβαίνει λέγειν τοὺς κύκλω φάσκοντας εἶναι τὴν ἀπόδειξιν οὐδὲν ἕτερον πλὴν ὅτι τοῦ Α ὄντος τὸ Α ἐστίν. οὕτω δὲ πάντα δεῖξαι ῥάδιον.

Οὐ μὴν ἀλλ' οὐδὲ τοῦτο δυνατὸν πλὴν ἐπὶ τούτων ὅσα ἀλλήλοις ἔπεται, ὥσπερ τὰ ἴδια. ἐνὸς μὲν οὖν κειμένου δέδεικται ὅτι οὐδέποτ' ἀνάγκη τι εἶναι ἕτερον (λέγω δ' ἐνός, ὅτι οὔτε ὅρου ἐνός οὔτε  
10 θέσεως μιᾶς τεθείσης), ἐκ δύο δὲ θέσεων πρώτων καὶ ἐλαχίστων ἐνδέχεται, εἴπερ καὶ συλλογίσασθαι. εἰ μὲν οὖν τό τε Α τῷ Β καὶ τῷ Γ ἔπεται, καὶ ταῦτ' ἀλλήλοις καὶ τῷ Α, οὕτω μὲν ἐνδέχεται ἐξ ἀλλήλων δεικνύναι πάντα τὰ αἰτηθέντα ἐν τῷ πρώτῳ σχήματι, ὥς δέδεικται ἐν τοῖς περὶ συλλογισμοῦ.  
15 δέδεικται δὲ καὶ ὅτι ἐν τοῖς ἄλλοις σχήμασιν ἢ οὐ γίνεται συλλογισμὸς ἢ οὐ περὶ τῶν ληφθέντων. τὰ δὲ μὴ ἀντικατηγορούμενα οὐδαμῶς ἔστι δεῖξαι κύκλω· ὥστ' ἐπειδὴ ὀλίγα τοιαῦτα ἐν ταῖς ἀποδείξεσι, φανερόν ὅτι κενόν τε καὶ ἀδύνατον τὸ

<sup>a</sup> Sc. in conjunction with the major premiss "when A is, B is."

For when if A is, B must be, and if B is, C must be, then if A is, C must be. Then if when A is, B must be, and when B is, A must be (this is what is meant by circular proof), let A represent C in the first proof. Then to say that when B is, A is, is equivalent to saying that when B is, C is ; and this <sup>a</sup> is equivalent to saying that when A is, C is. But C is the same as A. Thus it follows that those who assert that demonstration is circular are merely maintaining that when A is, A is ; by which method it is easy to prove anything.

Moreover, even this mode of proof is impossible except in the case of attributes which are reciprocal consequents, *e.g.*, properties.<sup>b</sup> It has been shown <sup>c</sup> that from the positing of one thing—by which I mean either one term or one proposition—nothing else ever necessarily follows ; two is the first and least number of propositions from which a necessary consequence is possible, since this is the minimum requirement for any logical conclusion. Thus if A is a consequent of B and of C, and the latter are consequents both of one another and of A, it is possible to prove reciprocally in the first figure all the assumptions which we have made. This has been shown in our discussion of syllogism.<sup>d</sup> But it has also been shown <sup>e</sup> that in the other figures either no syllogism results or none which confirms our assumptions. Propositions whose terms are not reciprocally predicable cannot be proved at all by circular demonstration. Hence, since such terms rarely occur in demonstrations, it is evidently futile

<sup>b</sup> Cf. *Top.* 102 a 18. Definition and differentia are also predicable convertibly.

<sup>c</sup> *An. Pr.* I. xxv.

<sup>d</sup> *Ibid.* II. v.

<sup>e</sup> *Ibid.* vi, vii.

73 a

λέγειν ἐξ ἀλλήλων εἶναι τὴν ἀπόδειξιν καὶ διὰ  
20 τοῦτο πάντων ἐνδέχεσθαι εἶναι ἀπόδειξιν.

IV. Ἐπεὶ δ' ἀδύνατον ἄλλως ἔχειν οὐ ἔστιν ἐπι-  
στήμη ἀπλῶς, ἀναγκαῖον ἂν εἴη τὸ ἐπιστητὸν τὸ  
κατὰ τὴν ἀποδεικτικὴν ἐπιστήμην. ἀποδεικτικὴ δ'  
ἐστὶν ἣν ἔχομεν τῷ ἔχειν ἀπόδειξιν· ἐξ ἀναγκαίων  
25 ἄρα συλλογισμός ἐστὶν ἡ ἀπόδειξις. ληπτέον ἄρα  
ἐκ τίνων καὶ ποίων αἱ ἀποδείξεις εἰσίν. πρῶτον δέ  
διορίσωμεν τί λέγομεν τὸ κατὰ παντὸς καὶ τί τὸ  
καθ' αὐτὸ καὶ τί τὸ καθόλου.

Κατὰ παντὸς μὲν οὖν τοῦτο λέγω ὃ ἂν ᾗ μὴ ἐπὶ  
τινὸς μὲν τινὸς δὲ μή, μηδὲ ποτέ μὲν ποτέ δὲ μή.  
30 οἶον εἰ κατὰ παντὸς ἀνθρώπου ζῶον, εἰ ἀληθὲς τόνδ'  
εἰπεῖν ἄνθρωπον, ἀληθὲς καὶ ζῶον, καὶ εἰ νῦν  
θάτερον, καὶ θάτερον, καὶ εἰ ἐν πάσῃ γραμμῇ  
στιγμῇ, ὡσαύτως. σημεῖον δέ· καὶ γὰρ τὰς ἐνστά-  
σεις οὕτω φέρομεν ὥς κατὰ παντὸς ἐρωτώμενοι, ἢ  
εἰ ἐπὶ τινι μή, ἢ εἰ ποτε μή.

35 Καθ' αὐτὰ δ' ὅσα ὑπάρχει τε ἐν τῷ τί ἐστιν,  
οἶον τριγώνῳ γραμμῇ καὶ γραμμῇ στιγμῇ (ἢ γὰρ  
οὐσία αὐτῶν ἐκ τούτων ἐστί, καὶ ἐν τῷ λόγῳ τῷ  
λέγοντι τί ἐστιν ἐνυπάρχει)· καὶ ὅσοις τῶν ὑπαρ-  
χόντων<sup>1</sup> αὐτοῖς αὐτὰ ἐν τῷ λόγῳ ἐνυπάρχουσι τῷ τί

<sup>1</sup> Bonitz : ἐνυπαρχόντων.

<sup>a</sup> Here καθόλου is used in a special sense : see 73 b 25 ff.

<sup>b</sup> i.e., this will be true of any line at any time.

<sup>c</sup> Although Aristotle's examples are of essential constituents, he obviously intends to include essential attributes.



## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, I. III-IV

and impossible to maintain that demonstration is reciprocal and that therefore everything can be demonstrated.

IV. Since the object of scientific knowledge in the absolute sense cannot be otherwise than it is, the notion reached by demonstrative knowledge will be necessarily true. Now knowledge is demonstrative when we possess it in virtue of having a demonstration ; therefore the premisses from which demonstration is inferred are necessarily true. Therefore we must comprehend the nature and character of the premisses from which demonstrations proceed. Let us first define what we mean by the terms "predicated of all" and "*per se*" and "universal" <sup>a</sup> (as applied to attributes).

Before discussing the premisses we must define certain terms.

I apply the term "predicated of all" to whatever is *not* predicated of one instance but not of another, or predicated at one time but not at another. *E.g.*, if "animal" is predicated of all "man," if it is true to call X a man, it is also true to call him an animal ; and if the former statement is true now, so is the latter. Similarly too if every line contains a point.<sup>b</sup> There is evidence to corroborate this definition ; for the objection which we adduce against a proposition which involves "predication of all" implies either an example to which or a time at which the predicate does not apply.

"Predicated of all."

I describe one thing as "*belonging per se*" to another (i) if it is an element in the essential nature of the other,<sup>c</sup> as, *e.g.*, a line belongs to a triangle and a point to a line (for the line or point is a constituent of the being of the triangle or line, and is an element in the formula which describes its essence) ; (ii) if it is an attribute the formula of whose essence includes

"*Per se*" as applied to attributes,

73 a

ἐστὶ δηλοῦντι, οἷον τὸ εὐθὺ ὑπάρχει γραμμῇ καὶ  
 40 τὸ περιφερές, καὶ τὸ περιττὸν καὶ ἄρτιον ἀριθμῶ,  
 73 b καὶ τὸ πρῶτον καὶ σύνθετον καὶ ἰσόπλευρον καὶ  
 ἑτερόμηκες· καὶ πᾶσι τούτοις ἐνυπάρχουσιν ἐν τῷ  
 λόγῳ τῷ τί ἐστὶ λέγοντι ἔνθα μὲν γραμμῇ ἔνθα δ'  
 ἀριθμός. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων τὰ τοιαῦθ'  
 ἐκάστοις καθ' αὐτὰ λέγω, ὅσα δὲ μηδετέρως ὑπάρ-  
 5 χει συμβεβηκότα, οἷον τὸ μουσικὸν ἢ λευκὸν τῷ  
 ζῳῳ. ἔτι ὁ μὴ καθ' ὑποκειμένου λέγεται ἄλλον  
 τινός, οἷον τὸ βαδίζον ἕτερόν τι ὃν βαδίζον ἐστί, καὶ  
 τὸ<sup>1</sup> λευκόν, ἢ δ' οὐσία καὶ ὅσα τότε τι σημαίνει οὐχ  
 ἕτερόν τι ὄντα ἐστὶν ὅπερ ἐστί. τὰ μὲν δὴ μὴ καθ'  
 ὑποκειμένου καθ' αὐτὰ λέγω, τὰ δὲ καθ' ὑποκει-  
 10 μένου συμβεβηκότα. ἔτι δ' ἄλλον τρόπον τὸ μὲν  
 δι' αὐτὸ ὑπάρχον ἐκάστω καθ' αὐτό, τὸ δὲ μὴ δι'  
 αὐτὸ συμβεβηκός, οἷον εἰ βαδίζοντος ἥστραψε, συμ-  
 βεβηκός· οὐ γὰρ διὰ τὸ βαδίζειν ἥστραψεν, ἀλλὰ  
 συνέβη, φαμέν, τοῦτο. εἰ δὲ δι' αὐτό, καθ' αὐτό,  
 οἷον εἴ τι σφαττόμενον ἀπέθανε καὶ κατὰ τὴν  
 15 σφαγὴν, ὅτι διὰ τὸ σφάττεσθαι, ἀλλ' οὐ συνέβη  
 σφαττόμενον ἀποθανεῖν. τὰ ἄρα λεγόμενα ἐπὶ τῶν  
 ἀπλῶς ἐπιστητῶν καθ' αὐτὰ οὕτως ὡς ἐνυπάρχειν

<sup>1</sup> τὸ om. ABCd.

<sup>a</sup> An oblong number is a compound number that is not a square. Both names refer to the geometrical patterns in which pebbles or other objects representing the units can be arranged.

<sup>b</sup> Although in Greek a participle or adjective can be used as an apparent substantive, it is still an attribute predicated of an unexpressed subject apart from which it has no separate existence.

<sup>c</sup> We should call them attributes.

<sup>d</sup> (iii) and (iv) are irrelevant for Aristotle's present pur-

## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, I. iv

the subject to which the attribute itself belongs. *E.g.*, "straight" and "curved" belong to "line," "odd" and "even," "prime" and "compound," "square" and "oblong"<sup>a</sup> belong to number; and the formula of the essence of each one of these includes line or number respectively. Similarly in all other cases I describe all terms of either of the kinds just described as belonging *per se* to their several subjects; whereas such as belong in neither of these senses—as *e.g.*, "cultured" or "white" belongs to "animal"—I call accidents. (iii) I also describe as *individual substances*, *<existing> per se* whatever is not stated of something else as subject. I mean, *e.g.*, that "the walking" is something else which walks, and similarly "the white"<sup>b</sup>; whereas substance, or whatever denotes an individual, is not anything other than just itself. Thus I call *per se* those terms which are not predicated of a subject; those which are so predicated I call accidents.<sup>c</sup> (iv) Again in another sense that which *and events*, happens to something else in virtue of the latter's own nature is said to happen to it *per se*; while that which does not so happen is called an accident. *E.g.*, if it lightens while a man is walking, it is an accident; for it was not because he was walking that it lightened; it was, as we say, an accident. But an event which happens in virtue of a thing's own nature happens to it *per se*, *e.g.*, if something dies while being slaughtered and in accordance with the act of slaughtering, since it died because it was slaughtered, it was not an accident that it died while being slaughtered. Thus<sup>d</sup> in the sphere of what is knowable in the absolute sense, attributes which are called *per se*

pose; they may even have been added by another hand; at any rate Aristotle treats them as parenthetical.

73 b

- τοῖς κατηγορουμένοις ἢ ἐνυπάρχεσθαι δι' αὐτὰ τέ  
 ἐστι καὶ ἐξ ἀνάγκης. οὐ γὰρ ἐνδέχεται μὴ ὑπάρχειν  
 20 ἢ ἀπλῶς ἢ τὰ ἀντικείμενα, οἷον γραμμῇ τὸ εὐθύ ἢ  
 τὸ καμπύλον καὶ ἀριθμῶ τὸ περιττὸν ἢ τὸ ἄρτιον.  
 ἔστι γὰρ τὸ ἐναντίον ἢ στέρησις ἢ ἀντίφασις ἐν τῷ  
 αὐτῷ γένει, οἷον ἄρτιον τὸ μὴ περιττὸν ἐν ἀριθμοῖς  
 ἢ ἔπεται. ὥστ' εἰ ἀνάγκη φάναι ἢ ἀποφάναι, ἀν-  
 ἀγκη καὶ τὰ καθ' αὐτὰ ὑπάρχειν.
- 25 Τὸ μὲν οὖν κατὰ παντὸς καὶ καθ' αὐτὸ διωρίσθω  
 τὸν τρόπον τοῦτον· καθόλου δὲ λέγω ὃ ἂν κατὰ  
 παντός τε ὑπάρχη καὶ καθ' αὐτὸ καὶ ἡ αὐτό.  
 φανερόν ἄρα ὅτι ὅσα καθόλου ἐξ ἀνάγκης ὑπάρχει  
 τοῖς πράγμασιν. τὸ καθ' αὐτὸ δὲ καὶ ἡ αὐτὸ ταυ-  
 30 τόν, οἷον καθ' αὐτὴν τῇ γραμμῇ ὑπάρχει στιγμή καὶ  
 τὸ εὐθύ· καὶ γὰρ ἡ γραμμὴ καὶ τῷ τριγώνῳ ἢ  
 τρίγωνον δύο ὀρθαί· καὶ γὰρ καθ' αὐτὸ τὸ τρίγωνον  
 δύο ὀρθαῖς ἴσον. τὸ καθόλου δὲ ὑπάρχει τότε, ὅταν  
 ἐπὶ τοῦ τυχόντος καὶ πρώτου δεικνύηται. οἷον τὸ  
 δύο ὀρθὰς ἔχειν οὔτε τῷ σχήματί ἐστι καθόλου  
 35 (καίτοι ἐστι δεῖξαι κατὰ σχήματος ὅτι δύο ὀρθὰς

<sup>a</sup> Type (i).<sup>b</sup> Type (ii).<sup>c</sup> A colour is either white or not-white in the sense that it is either pure white or a colour containing little or no white (privation); number is either odd or not-odd in the sense that if it is not odd it must be even (contradictory).<sup>d</sup> By the Law of Excluded Middle.<sup>e</sup> This limitation of the meaning of καθ' αὐτό by equating it with ἡ αὐτό comes in oddly here. The point is that strictly an attribute only belongs *per se* to the highest class to which it is essential. The same idea is expressed in a different way by *πρώτου* below.



as implying or implied by their subjects belong to those subjects in virtue of their own nature and of necessity. It is impossible that they should not belong to their subjects—either absolutely<sup>a</sup> or in the way that opposite attributes belong,<sup>b</sup> *e.g.*, either straight or curved to a line and either odd or even to a number; because the contrary of an attribute is either the privation or the contradictory of that attribute in the same genus; *e.g.*, in number the not-odd is even, inasmuch as evenness is a consequent of non-oddness.<sup>c</sup> Thus since an attribute must be either asserted or denied of a subject,<sup>d</sup> *per se* attributes must belong to their subjects of necessity.

So much for the definition of what is meant by “predication of all” and “*per se*.” By a “universal” attribute I mean one which belongs as “predicated of all” to its subject, and belongs to that subject *per se* and *qua* itself. Thus it is evident that all universal attributes belong to their subjects of necessity. A *per se* attribute is identical with that which belongs to its subject *qua itself*<sup>e</sup>; *e.g.*, “point” and “straight” belong *per se* to “line,” for they also belong to it *qua* line; and “having the sum of its interior angles equal to two right angles” belongs to triangle *qua* triangle; for a triangle *per se* has the sum of its interior angles equal to two right angles. An attribute only belongs to a subject universally when it can be shown to belong to any chance instance of that subject, and to belong to that subject primarily.<sup>f</sup> (i) *E.g.*, “having the sum of its interior angles equal to two right angles” is not universally applicable to “figure.” It is indeed possible to prove of a figure that the sum of its interior angles is equal to

“Universal” attributes.

<sup>f</sup> See previous note.

73 b

ἔχει, ἀλλ' οὐ τοῦ τυχόντος σχήματος, οὐδὲ χρήται  
 τῷ τυχόντι σχήματι δεικνύς<sup>1</sup>. τὸ γὰρ τετράγωνον  
 σχῆμα μὲν, οὐκ ἔχει δὲ δύο ὀρθαῖς ἴσας). τὸ δ'  
 ἰσοσκελὲς ἔχει μὲν τὸ τυχόν δύο ὀρθαῖς ἴσας, ἀλλ'  
 οὐ πρῶτον, ἀλλὰ τὸ τρίγωνον πρότερον. ὁ τοίνυν τὸ  
 40 τυχόν πρῶτον δείκνυται δύο ὀρθὰς ἔχον ἢ ὅτι οὖν  
 74 a ἄλλο, τούτῳ πρῶτῳ ὑπάρχει καθόλου, καὶ ἡ ἀπό-  
 δειξις καθ' αὐτὸ τούτου καθόλου ἐστί, τῶν δ' ἄλλων  
 τρόπον τινὰ οὐ καθ' αὐτό· οὐδὲ τοῦ ἰσοσκελοῦς οὐκ  
 ἐστί καθόλου ἀλλ' ἐπὶ πλέον.

V. Δεῖ δὲ μὴ λανθάνειν ὅτι πολλάκις συμβαίνει  
 5 διαμαρτάνειν καὶ μὴ ὑπάρχειν τὸ δεικνύμενον πρῶ-  
 τον καθόλου, ἥ δοκεῖ δεικνυσθαι καθόλου πρῶτον.  
 ἀπατώμεθα δὲ ταύτην τὴν ἀπάτην ὅταν ἡ μηδὲν ἢ  
 λαβεῖν ἀνώτερον παρὰ τὸ καθ' ἕκαστον ἢ τὰ καθ'  
 ἕκαστα,<sup>2</sup> ἢ ἡ μὲν, ἀλλ' ἀνώνυμον ἢ ἐπὶ διαφόροις  
 10 εἶδει πράγμασιν, ἢ τυγχάνῃ ὃν ὡς ἐν μέρει ὅλον ἐφ'  
 ᾧ δεικνύται· τοῖς γὰρ ἐν μέρει ὑπάρξει μὲν ἡ ἀπό-  
 δειξις, καὶ ἔσται κατὰ παντός, ἀλλ' ὁμῶς οὐκ ἔσται  
 τούτου πρῶτου καθόλου ἢ ἀπόδειξις. λέγω δὲ

<sup>1</sup> δεικνύς] ὁ δεικνύς Bekker.

<sup>2</sup> ἢ τὰ καθ' ἕκαστα secl. Ross.

<sup>a</sup> Unless Aristotle is writing very carelessly ἢ τὰ καθ' ἕκαστα is a mistaken gloss, which Ross rightly brackets. καθ'

two right angles, but this cannot be proved of any chance figure ; nor does one use any chance figure for the proof, for a square is a figure, but it does not contain angles equal to the sum of two right angles. Again, any chance isosceles triangle has angles equal to the sum of two right angles, but it is not the first figure to fulfil this requirement ; the triangle is prior to it. Thus that which can be shown in any chance instance primarily to fulfil the condition of containing the sum of two right angles, or any other requirement, is the subject to which that universal attribute primarily belongs ; and the demonstration that this predicate is true universally of its subject establishes a *per se* relation between them, whereas the relation established for other predicates is in a sense not *per se*. (ii) Nor again is " containing angles equal to the sum of two right angles " a universal attribute of " isosceles " ; it has a wider extension.

V. We must not overlook the fact that a mistake often occurs, and the attribute which we are trying to prove does not apply primarily and universally in the sense in which we think that it is being proved. We fall into this error either (i) when we cannot find any higher term apart from the individual [or individuals] <sup>a</sup> ; or (ii) when there is such a term, but it has no name as applied to objects which differ in species ; or (iii) when the subject of the demonstration happens to be a whole which is a part of some other ; for although the demonstration will hold good of the particulars contained in it and will be predicated of all of it, still the demonstration will not apply to it primarily and universally. When I say

Error may vitiate the proof of universal attributes. Three causes for this error.

ἐκαστον seems here to mean not an individual but a single species the genus of which is unrecognizable.

τούτου πρώτου, ἢ τοῦτο, ἀπόδειξιν ὅταν ἢ πρώτου καθόλου.

Εἰ οὖν τις δείξειεν ὅτι αἱ ὀρθαὶ οὐ συμπίπτουσι, 15 δόξειεν ἂν τούτου εἶναι ἢ ἀποδείξεις διὰ τὸ ἐπὶ πασῶν εἶναι τῶν ὀρθῶν· οὐκ ἔστι δέ, εἴπερ μὴ ὅτι ὠδὶ ἴσαι γίγνεται τοῦτο, ἀλλ' ἢ ὁπωσοῦν ἴσαι.

Καὶ εἰ τρίγωνον μὴ ἦν ἄλλο ἢ ἰσοσκελές, ἢ ἰσοσκελές ἂν ἐδόκει ὑπάρχειν.

Καὶ τὸ ἀνάλογον ὅτι ἐναλλάξ, ἢ ἀριθμοὶ καὶ ἢ γραμμαὶ καὶ ἢ στερεὰ καὶ ἢ χρόνοι, ὥσπερ 20 ἐδείκνυτο ποτε χωρὶς, ἐνδεχόμενόν γε κατὰ πάντων μιᾷ ἀποδείξει δειχθῆναι· ἀλλὰ διὰ τὸ μὴ εἶναι ὠνομασμένον τι πάντα ταῦτα ἐν, ἀριθμοὶ μήκη χρόνος στερεά, καὶ εἶδει διαφέρειν ἀλλήλων, χωρὶς ἐλαμβάνετο· νῦν δὲ καθόλου δείκνυται· οὐ γὰρ ἢ γραμμαὶ ἢ ἢ ἀριθμοὶ ὑπῆρχεν ἀλλ' ἢ τοδί, ὁ 25 καθόλου ὑποτίθενται ὑπάρχειν. διὰ τοῦτο οὐδ' ἂν τις δείξη καθ' ἕκαστον τὸ τρίγωνον ἀποδείξει ἢ μιᾷ ἢ ἑτέρα ὅτι δύο ὀρθὰς ἔχει ἕκαστον, τὸ ἰσό- πλευρον χωρὶς καὶ τὸ σκαληνές καὶ τὸ ἰσοσκελές, οὐπω οἶδε τὸ τρίγωνον ὅτι δύο ὀρθαῖς εἰ μὴ τὸν

<sup>a</sup> An example of (iii). The fact is true of the lines primarily *qua* parallel, only secondarily *qua* perpendicular.

<sup>b</sup> An example of (i).

<sup>c</sup> *i.e.*, that if  $A : B = C : D$ ,  $A : C = B : D$ . The illustration which follows is an example of (ii); but *cf.* Heath, *Mathematics in Aristotle*, pp. 41-44.

<sup>d</sup> *i.e.*, with the unco-ordinated unscientific knowledge of the sophist.



## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, I. v

that demonstration applies to a subject primarily and universally, I mean that it applies to that subject primarily as such.

Thus if one were to prove that perpendiculars <to the same straight line> never meet, it might be supposed that this quality of perpendiculars was the proper subject of the demonstration, since it holds good of all perpendiculars. But it is not ; inasmuch as the result follows, not because the <alternate> angles are equal in this particular way, but if they are equal at all.<sup>a</sup>

Again, if there were no triangle except the isosceles, the proof that it contains angles equal to the sum of two right angles would be supposed to apply to it *qua* isosceles.<sup>b</sup>

Again, the law that *proportionals alternate* <sup>c</sup> might be supposed to apply to numbers *qua* numbers, and similarly to lines, solids and periods of time ; as indeed it used to be demonstrated of these subjects separately. It could, of course, have been proved of them all by a single demonstration, but since there was no single term to denote the common quality of numbers, lengths, time and solids, and they differ in species from one another, they were treated separately ; but now the law is proved universally ; for the property did not belong to them *qua* lines or *qua* numbers, but *qua* possessing this special quality which they are assumed to possess universally. Hence, even if a man proves separately—whether by the same demonstration or not—of each kind of triangle, equilateral, scalene and isosceles, that it contains angles equal to the sum of two right angles, he still does not know, except in the sophistical sense,<sup>d</sup> that a triangle has its angles equal to the sum of two right angles, or

74 a

σοφιστικὸν τρόπον, οὐδὲ καθόλου τρίγωνον, οὐδ' εἰ  
 30 μηδέν ἐστι παρὰ ταῦτα τρίγωνον ἕτερον· οὐ γὰρ ἡ  
 τρίγωνον οἶδεν, οὐδὲ πᾶν τρίγωνον ἄλλ' ἢ κατ'  
 ἀριθμόν· κατ' εἶδος δ' οὐ πᾶν, καὶ εἰ μηδέν ἔστιν ὃ  
 οὐκ οἶδεν.

Πότ' οὖν οὐκ οἶδε καθόλου, καὶ πότ' οἶδεν ἀπ-  
 λῶς; δῆλον δὴ ὅτι εἰ ταῦτόν ἦν τριγώνῳ εἶναι καὶ  
 ἰσοπλεύρῳ ἢ ἐκάστω ἢ πᾶσιν· εἰ δὲ μὴ ταῦτόν ἄλλ'  
 35 ἕτερον, ὑπάρχει δ' ἡ τρίγωνον, οὐκ οἶδεν. πότερον  
 δ' ἡ τρίγωνον ἢ ἡ ἰσοσκελὲς ὑπάρχει; καὶ πότε  
 κατὰ τοῦθ' ὑπάρχει πρῶτον; καὶ καθόλου τίνος  
 ἢ ἀποδείξεις; δῆλον ὅτι ὅταν ἀφαιρουμένων ὑπάρξῃ  
 πρῶτῳ. οἷον τῷ ἰσοσκελεῖ χαλκῷ τριγώνῳ ὑπ-  
 74 b ἄρξουσι δύο ὀρθαί, ἀλλὰ καὶ τοῦ χαλκοῦν εἶναι  
 ἀφαιρεθέντος καὶ τοῦ ἰσοσκελὲς. ἀλλ' οὐ τοῦ σχή-  
 ματος ἢ πέρατος. ἀλλ' οὐ πρῶτων. τίνος οὖν  
 πρῶτου; εἰ δὴ τριγώνου, κατὰ τοῦτο ὑπάρχει  
 καὶ τοῖς ἄλλοις, καὶ τούτου καθόλου ἔστιν ἡ ἀπό-  
 δειξίς.

5 VI. Εἰ οὖν ἔστιν ἡ ἀποδεικτικὴ ἐπιστήμη ἐξ  
 ἀναγκαίων ἀρχῶν (ὃ γὰρ ἐπίσταται οὐ δυνατόν  
 ἄλλως ἔχειν), τὰ δὲ καθ' αὐτὰ ὑπάρχοντα ἀναγκαῖα

<sup>a</sup> i.e., through induction by simple enumeration.

## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, I. v-vi

that this is a universal property of triangles, even if there is no other kind of triangle besides these ; for he does not know that this property belongs to a triangle *qua* triangle, nor that it belongs to every triangle, except numerically<sup>a</sup>; for he does not know that it belongs to every triangle specifically, even if there is no triangle which he does not know to possess it.

When, then, do we not know universally, and when do we know absolutely ? Clearly, if " triangle " were essentially the same as " equilateral " in each or every instance, we should have absolute knowledge ; but if it is not the same but different, and the property belongs to the equilateral *qua* triangle, our knowledge is not universal. We must ask " Does the property belong to its subject *qua* triangle or *qua* isosceles ? When does it apply to its subject primarily ? What is the subject of which it can be demonstrated universally ? " Clearly the first subject to which it applies as the differentiae are removed. *E.g.*, the property of having angles equal to the sum of two right angles will apply to " bronze isosceles triangle " ; and it will still apply when " bronze " and " isosceles " are removed. " But not if you remove ' figure ' or ' limit. ' " No, but these are not the first differentiae whose removal makes the attribute inapplicable. " Then what is the first ? " If it is " triangle," then it is with respect to triangularity that the attribute applies to all the rest of the subjects, and it is of " triangle " that the attribute can be universally demonstrated.

VI. If, then, demonstrative knowledge proceeds from necessary first principles (because that which we know cannot possibly be otherwise), and essential

Criterion of  
" univer-  
sal " attri-  
butes.

Arguments  
to show that  
the pre-  
misses of

74 b

τοῖς πράγμασιν (τὰ μὲν γὰρ ἐν τῷ τί ἐστιν ὑπάρχει· τοῖς δ' αὐτὰ ἐν τῷ τί ἐστιν ὑπάρχει κατηγορουμένοις αὐτῶν, ὧν θάτερον τῶν ἀντικειμένων ἀνάγκη  
 10 ὑπάρχειν), φανερόν ὅτι ἐκ τοιούτων τινῶν ἂν εἴη ὁ ἀποδεικτικὸς συλλογισμός· ἅπαν γὰρ ἢ οὕτως ὑπάρχει ἢ κατὰ συμβεβηκός, τὰ δὲ συμβεβηκότα οὐκ ἀναγκαῖα.

Ἡ δὲ οὕτω λεκτέον, ἢ ἀρχὴν θεμένοις ὅτι ἡ ἀποδειξίς ἀναγκαῖόν<sup>1</sup> ἐστι, καὶ εἰ ἀποδέδεικται, οὐχ  
 15 οἷόν τ' ἄλλως ἔχειν· ἐξ ἀναγκαίων ἄρα δεῖ εἶναι τὸν συλλογισμόν. ἐξ ἀληθῶν μὲν γὰρ ἔστι καὶ μὴ ἀποδεικνύντα συλλογίσασθαι, ἐξ ἀναγκαίων δ' οὐκ ἔστιν ἀλλ' ἢ ἀποδεικνύντα· τοῦτο γὰρ ἤδη ἀποδείξεώς ἐστι.

Σημεῖον δ' ὅτι ἡ ἀπόδειξις ἐξ ἀναγκαίων ὅτι καὶ τὰς ἐνστάσεις οὕτω φέρομεν πρὸς τοὺς οἰομένους  
 20 ἀποδεικνύναι, ὅτι οὐκ ἀνάγκη, ἂν οἰώμεθα ἢ ὅλως ἐνδέχεσθαι ἄλλως ἢ ἐνεκά γε τοῦ λόγου.

Δῆλον δ' ἐκ τούτων καὶ ὅτι εὐήθεις οἱ λαμβάνειν οἰόμενοι καλῶς τὰς ἀρχὰς εἰς ἐνδοξος ἢ ἡ πρότασις καὶ ἀληθής, οἷον οἱ σοφισταὶ ὅτι τὸ ἐπίστασθαι τὸ ἐπιστήμην ἔχειν· οὐ γὰρ τὸ ἐνδοξον ἢ μὴ<sup>2</sup> ἀρχή

<sup>1</sup> ἀναγκαίων Philoponus (?), Ross : ἀναγκαίου Mure.

<sup>2</sup> ἢ μὴ] ἡμῶν n<sup>1</sup>, Ross.

<sup>a</sup> e.g., 'nose' is part of the definition of 'snubness' (*Met.* 1064 a 25), and every nose is either snub or not snub.

<sup>b</sup> i.e., necessary.

<sup>c</sup> This sense can, I think, be extracted from the vulgate without having recourse to emendation.



attributes are necessary to their subjects (for some of them inhere in the essence of their subjects, while others have the subjects of which they are predicated inherent in their own essence, and in this latter class one member of the pair of opposite attributes must apply),<sup>a</sup> it is evident that the premisses from which demonstrative syllogisms are drawn will be of this nature <sup>b</sup>; for every attribute applies either in this or in the accidental sense, and accidental attributes are not necessary.

demonstration are necessary.

We may either argue in this way, or lay down the principle that demonstration implies necessity,<sup>c</sup> i.e., that if a thing has been proved, it cannot be otherwise. Then it follows that the premisses of the <demonstrative> syllogism must be necessary; for whereas it is possible to draw a conclusion from true premisses without demonstrating anything, it is impossible to draw one from necessary premisses without doing so; for necessity directly implies demonstration.

Evidence that the premisses from which demonstration proceeds are necessary may be found in the fact that the way in which we raise objections against those who imagine that they are demonstrating is by saying "it is not *necessary*," that is if we think that it is possible, either without qualification or for the purposes of the argument, that the fact should be otherwise.

(It is also clear from these arguments that it is foolish to think that one is choosing the right starting-point if the premiss is <merely> generally accepted and true; as the sophists assume that to know is to have knowledge.<sup>d</sup> The starting-point is not that which is generally accepted or the reverse, but that

<sup>a</sup> Cf. Plato, *Euthydemus* 277 B.

74 b

25 ἔστιν, ἀλλὰ τὸ πρῶτον τοῦ γένους περὶ ὃ δείκνυται·  
καὶ τὰληθές οὐ πᾶν οἰκείον.

“Οτι δ’ ἐξ ἀναγκαίων εἶναι δεῖ τὸν συλλογισμὸν  
φανερὸν καὶ ἐκ τῶνδε. εἰ γὰρ ὁ μὴ ἔχων λόγον τοῦ  
διὰ τί οὕσης ἀποδείξεως οὐκ ἐπιστήμων, εἴη δ’ ἂν  
ὥστε τὸ Α κατὰ τοῦ Γ ἐξ ἀνάγκης ὑπάρχειν, τὸ δὲ  
30 Β τὸ μέσον δι’ οὗ ἀπεδείχθη μὴ ἐξ ἀνάγκης, οὐκ  
οἶδε διότι. οὐ γάρ ἐστι τοῦτο διὰ τὸ μέσον· τὸ μὲν  
γὰρ ἐνδέχεται μὴ εἶναι, τὸ δὲ συμπέρασμα ἀναγ-  
καῖον.

“Ἐτι εἴ τις μὴ οἶδε νῦν ἔχων τὸν λόγον καὶ σωζό-  
μενος, σωζομένου τοῦ πράγματος, μὴ ἐπιλεησ-  
μένος, οὐδὲ πρότερον ἦδει. φθαρείη δ’ ἂν τὸ μέσον  
35 εἰ μὴ ἀναγκαῖον, ὥστε ἔξει μὲν τὸν λόγον σωζό-  
μενος σωζομένου τοῦ πράγματος, οὐκ οἶδε δέ· οὐδ’  
ἄρα πρότερον ἦδει. εἰ δὲ μὴ ἐφθαρται, ἐνδέχεται  
δὲ φθαρῆναι, τὸ συμβαῖνον ἂν εἴη δυνατόν καὶ  
ἐνδεχόμενον. ἀλλ’ ἔστιν ἀδύνατον οὕτως ἔχοντα  
εἰδέναι.

75 a “Ὅταν μὲν οὖν τὸ συμπέρασμα ἐξ ἀνάγκης ᾗ,  
οὐδὲν κωλύει τὸ μέσον μὴ ἀναγκαῖον εἶναι δι’ οὗ  
ἐδείχθη· ἔστι γὰρ τὸ ἀναγκαῖον καὶ μὴ ἐξ ἀναγ-  
καίων<sup>1</sup> συλλογίσασθαι, ὥσπερ καὶ ἀληθές μὴ ἐξ  
5 ἀληθῶν· ὅταν δὲ τὸ μέσον ἐξ ἀνάγκης, καὶ τὸ

<sup>1</sup> ἀναγκαίων n, Philoponus : ἀναγκαίου.

<sup>a</sup> But in neither case is the conclusion proved. This paragraph is a parenthetical comment on the main argument.

## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, I. VI

which is primarily true of the genus with which the demonstration deals ; and not every true fact is peculiar to a given genus.)

That our syllogism must be based upon necessary premisses is evident also from the following argument. Since the man who cannot give an account of the reason for a fact, although there is a proof available, is not possessed of scientific knowledge, if we assume a syllogism such that while A necessarily applies as predicate to C, B, the middle term by which the conclusion was proved, is not in a necessary relation to the other terms, then he does not know the reason. For the conclusion does not depend upon the middle term, since the latter may not be true, whereas the conclusion is necessary.

Again, if a man does not know a fact now, although he can give an account of it and both he himself and the fact are unchanged, and he has not forgotten it, then he was also ignorant of it before. But if the middle term is not necessary, it may cease to operate. In that case, although the man himself and the fact are unchanged, and he will still have his account of it, he does not know the fact. Therefore he was also ignorant of it before. Even if the middle term has not actually ceased, if it *may* cease, the conclusion will be problematic and contingent ; and under such conditions knowledge is impossible.

(When the conclusion is necessary, it is not essential that the middle term by which it was proved should be necessary, for it is possible to reach a necessary conclusion even from premisses which are not necessary, just as it is possible to reach a true conclusion from premisses which are not true.<sup>a</sup> But when the middle term is necessarily true, the con-

Parenthe-  
sis: Non-  
necessary  
premisses  
may give,  
but neces-  
sary pre-  
misses must  
give, a  
necessary  
conclusion.

75 a

συμπέρασμα ἐξ ἀνάγκης, ὥσπερ καὶ ἐξ ἀληθῶν ἀληθὲς αἰεί· ἔστω γὰρ τὸ Α κατὰ τοῦ Β ἐξ ἀνάγκης, καὶ τοῦτο κατὰ τοῦ Γ· ἀναγκαῖον τοίνυν καὶ τὸ Α τῷ Γ ὑπάρχειν· ὅταν δὲ μὴ ἀναγκαῖον ᾗ τὸ συμπέρασμα, οὐδὲ τὸ μέσον ἀναγκαῖον οἶόν τ' εἶναι· ἔστω γὰρ τὸ Α τῷ Γ μὴ ἐξ ἀνάγκης ὑπάρχειν, τῷ  
 10 δὲ Β, καὶ τοῦτο τῷ Γ ἐξ ἀνάγκης· καὶ τὸ Α ἄρα τῷ Γ ἐξ ἀνάγκης ὑπάρξει· ἀλλ' οὐχ ὑπέκειτο.

Ἐπεὶ τοίνυν εἰ ἐπίσταται ἀποδεικτικῶς, δεῖ ἐξ ἀνάγκης ὑπάρχειν, δηλὸν ὅτι καὶ διὰ μέσου ἀναγκαίου δεῖ ἔχειν τὴν ἀπόδειξιν· ἢ οὐκ ἐπιστήσεται  
 15 οὔτε διότι οὔτε ὅτι ἀνάγκη ἐκείνο εἶναι, ἀλλ' ἢ οἰήσεται οὐκ εἰδώς, ἐὰν ὑπολάβῃ ὡς ἀναγκαῖον τὸ μὴ ἀναγκαῖον, ἢ οὐδ' οἰήσεται, ὁμοίως ἐὰν τε τὸ ὅτι εἰδῇ διὰ μέσων ἐὰν τε τὸ διότι καὶ δι' ἀμέσων.

Τῶν δὲ συμβεβηκότων μὴ καθ' αὐτά, ὃν τρόπον διωρίσθη τὰ καθ' αὐτά, οὐκ ἔστιν ἐπιστήμη  
 20 ἀποδεικτική· οὐ γὰρ ἔστιν ἐξ ἀνάγκης δεῖξαι τὸ συμπέρασμα· τὸ συμβεβηκὸς γὰρ ἐνδέχεται μὴ ὑπάρχειν· περὶ τοῦ<sup>1</sup> τοιούτου γὰρ λέγω συμβεβηκός· καίτοι ἀπορήσειεν ἂν τις ἴσως τίνος ἕνεκα ταῦτα δεῖ ἐρωτᾶν περὶ τούτων, εἰ μὴ ἀνάγκη τὸ συμπέρασμα εἶναι· οὐδὲν γὰρ διαφέρει εἴ τις ἐρόμενος τὰ  
 25 τυχόντα εἶτα εἴπειεν τὸ συμπέρασμα· δεῖ δ' ἐρωτᾶν οὐχ ὡς ἀναγκαῖον εἶναι διὰ τὰ ἡρωτημένα, ἀλλ'

<sup>1</sup> om. Ad.



clusion is also necessary ; just as the conclusion from true premisses is always true. For let A be necessarily predicated of B, and B of C ; then the conclusion that A applies to C is also necessary. But when the conclusion is not necessary, neither can the middle term be necessary. For suppose that A applies necessarily to B but not to C, and that B necessarily applies to C. Then A will also apply necessarily to C. But this was not the original assumption.)

Therefore since, if we have demonstrative knowledge of a proposition, the predicate must apply necessarily to the subject, it is obvious that the middle term upon which the proof depends must also be necessary. Otherwise we shall recognize neither the fact of the conclusion nor the reason for it as necessary ; we shall either think that we know, although we do not—that is if we assume as necessary that which is not necessary—or we shall not even think that we know, alike whether we know the fact by intermediate terms or whether we know the reason immediately.

Thus in demonstration the middle term must be necessary.

Attributes which are not essential in the sense which we have defined <sup>a</sup> do not admit of demonstrative knowledge, since it is not possible to give a necessary proof of the conclusion ; for an accidental attribute may not apply to its subject, and it is of this kind of attribute that I am speaking. At the same time it might be questioned why (in dialectic), if the conclusion is not necessarily true, we should ask for the concession of such premisses for such a conclusion ; one might as well suggest any premisses at random, and then state the conclusion. The answer is that we should put definite questions, not because the answers affect the necessity of the conclusion, but

No demonstrative knowledge of non-essential attributes.

75 a

ὅτι λέγειν ἀνάγκη τῷ ἐκείνῳ λέγοντι, καὶ ἀληθῶς λέγειν, ἐὰν ἀληθῶς ᾗ ὑπάρχοντα.

Ἐπεὶ δ' ἐξ ἀνάγκης ὑπάρχει περὶ ἕκαστον γένος ὅσα καθ' αὐτὰ ὑπάρχει, καὶ ᾗ ἕκαστον, φανερόν ὅτι  
 30 περὶ τῶν καθ' αὐτὰ ὑπαρχόντων αἱ ἐπιστημονικαὶ ἀποδείξεις καὶ ἐκ τῶν τοιούτων εἰσίν. τὰ μὲν γὰρ συμβεβηκότα οὐκ ἀναγκαῖα, ὥστ' οὐκ ἀνάγκη τὸ συμπέρασμα εἰδέναι διότι ὑπάρχει, οὐδ' εἰ ἀεὶ εἴη, μὴ καθ' αὐτὸ δέ, οἷον οἱ διὰ σημείων συλλογισμοί. τὸ γὰρ καθ' αὐτὸ οὐ καθ' αὐτὸ ἐπιστήσεται, οὐδὲ  
 35 διότι. τὸ δὲ διότι ἐπίστασθαί ἐστι τὸ διὰ τοῦ αἰτίου ἐπίστασθαι. δι' αὐτὸ ἄρα δεῖ καὶ τὸ μέσον τῷ τρίτῳ καὶ τὸ πρῶτον τῷ μέσῳ ὑπάρχειν.

VII. Οὐκ ἄρα ἔστιν ἐξ ἄλλου γένους μεταβάντα δεῖξαι, οἷον τὸ γεωμετρικὸν ἀριθμητικῇ. τρία γάρ  
 40 ἔστι τὰ ἐν ταῖς ἀποδείξεσιν, ἓν μὲν τὸ ἀποδεικνύμενον τὸ συμπέρασμα (τοῦτο δ' ἐστὶ τὸ ὑπάρχον γένει τινὶ καθ' αὐτό), ἓν δὲ τὰ ἀξιώματα (ἀξιώματα  
 75 b δ' ἔστιν ἐξ ὧν), τρίτον τὸ γένος τὸ ὑποκείμενον, οὗ τὰ πάθη καὶ τὰ καθ' αὐτὰ συμβεβηκότα δηλοῖ ἡ ἀπόδειξις. ἐξ ὧν μὲν οὖν ἡ ἀπόδειξις, ἐνδέχεται τὰ αὐτὰ εἶναι. ὧν δὲ τὸ γένος ἕτερον, ὥσπερ ἀριθμητικῆς καὶ γεωμετρίας, οὐκ ἔστι τὴν ἀριθμητικὴν  
 5 ἀπόδειξιν ἐφαρμόσαι ἐπὶ τὰ τοῖς μεγέθεσι συμβεβηκότα, εἰ μὴ τὰ μεγέθη ἀριθμοὶ εἰσι. τοῦτο δ' ὥς

<sup>a</sup> Even the syllogisms of dialectic should be formally valid.

<sup>b</sup> Where the connexion is neither causal nor necessary; cf. *An. Pr.* 70 a 7 ff.

<sup>c</sup> To describe the common axioms as ἐξ ὧν suggests that they serve as premisses; but this is true only of such as are

## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, I. VI-VII

because in stating them our opponent must state the conclusion, and state it truly if the attributes apply truly.<sup>a</sup>

Since in each genus it is the attributes that belong essentially to that particular genus that belong to it of necessity, it is evident that scientific demonstrations are concerned with essential attributes and proceed from them. For accidental attributes are not necessary, and therefore we do not necessarily know why the conclusion is true; not even if the attributes belong always, but not *per se*, as in syllogisms through signs.<sup>b</sup> For we shall not have knowledge of the essential *fact* as essential, nor shall we know its reason. To know the reason of a thing is to know it through its cause. Therefore the middle term must apply *per se* to the third, and also the first *per se* to the middle.

Hence our premisses must state *per se* connexions.

VII. Hence it is not possible to prove a fact by passing from one genus to another—*e.g.*, to prove a geometrical proposition by arithmetic. There are three factors in a demonstration: (1) The conclusion which is required to be proved, *i.e.*, the application of an essential attribute to some genus; (2) the axioms, on which the proof is based<sup>c</sup>; (3) the underlying genus, whose modifications or essential attributes are disclosed by the demonstration. Now where different genera, *e.g.*, arithmetic and geometry, are involved, although the basis of proof may be the same, it is not possible to apply the arithmetical demonstration to the attributes of extended magnitudes, unless extended magnitudes are numbers.<sup>d</sup> How transference is possible in some cases

They must state them of attributes belonging to the same genus as the proposition to be proved.

quantitative. Normally the axioms are  $\delta\iota' \omega\nu$  (*cf.* 76 b 10, 88 a 36 ff.).<sup>a</sup> For Aristotle they are not; *cf.* *Cat.* 4 b 22 ff.

75 b

ἐνδέχεται ἐπὶ τινων, ὕστερον λεχθήσεται. ἡ δ' ἀριθμητικὴ ἀπόδειξις αἰεὶ ἔχει τὸ γένος περὶ ὃ ἡ ἀπόδειξις, καὶ αἱ ἄλλαι ὁμοίως· ὥστ' ἡ ἀπλῶς ἀνάγκη τὸ αὐτὸ εἶναι γένος ἢ πῆ, εἰ μέλλει ἡ ἀπό-  
 10 δειξις μεταβαίνειν· ἄλλως δ' ὅτι ἀδύνατον δῆλον· ἐκ γὰρ τοῦ αὐτοῦ γένους ἀνάγκη τὰ ἄκρα καὶ τὰ μέσα εἶναι. εἰ γὰρ μὴ καθ' αὐτά, συμβεβηκότα ἔσται. διὰ τοῦτο τῇ γεωμετρίᾳ οὐκ ἔστι δεῖξαι ὅτι τῶν ἐναντίων μία ἐπιστήμη, ἀλλ' οὐδ' ὅτι οἱ δύο κύβοι κύβος· οὐδ' ἄλλη ἐπιστήμη τὸ ἐτέρας, ἀλλ' ἡ  
 15 ὅσα οὕτως ἔχει πρὸς ἄλληλα ὥστ' εἶναι θάτερον ὑπὸ θάτερον, οἷον τὰ ὀπτικά πρὸς γεωμετρίαν καὶ τὰ ἀρμονικά πρὸς ἀριθμητικὴν. οὐδ' εἴ τι ὑπάρχει ταῖς γραμμαῖς μὴ ἢ γραμμαὶ καὶ ἢ ἐκ τῶν ἀρχῶν τῶν ιδίων, οἷον εἰ καλλίστη τῶν γραμμῶν ἢ εὐθεῖα  
 20 ἢ εἰ ἐναντίως ἔχει τῇ περιφερείᾳ· οὐ γὰρ ἢ τὸ ἴδιον γένος αὐτῶν ὑπάρχει, ἀλλ' ἢ κοινόν τι.

VIII. Φανερόν δὲ καὶ ἐὰν ᾧσιν αἱ προτάσεις καθόλου ἐξ ᾧν ὁ συλλογισμός, ὅτι ἀνάγκη καὶ τὸ συμπέρασμα αἰδῖον εἶναι τῆς τοιαύτης ἀποδείξεως καὶ τῆς ἀπλῶς εἰπεῖν ἀποδείξεως. οὐκ ἔστιν ἄρα  
 25 ἀπόδειξις τῶν φθαρτῶν οὐδ' ἐπιστήμη ἀπλῶς, ἀλλ' οὕτως ὥσπερ κατὰ συμβεβηκός, ὅτι οὐ καθόλου αὐτοῦ ἐστὶν ἀλλὰ ποτὲ καὶ πῶς. ὅταν δ' ἢ, ἀνάγκη τὴν ἐτέραν μὴ καθόλου εἶναι πρότασιν καὶ φθαρτήν,

<sup>a</sup> 76 a 9 ff., 78 b 34 ff.

<sup>b</sup> In the case of subaltern sciences.

<sup>c</sup> The reference is to cube numbers; cf. Euclid, *Elementa* ix. 4.



## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, I. VII-VIII

will be explained later.<sup>a</sup> Arithmetical demonstration always keeps to the genus which is the subject of the demonstration, and similarly with all other sciences. Thus the genus must be the same, either absolutely or in some respect,<sup>b</sup> if the demonstration is to be *transferable*. Clearly this is impossible in any other way; the extreme and middle terms must belong to the same genus; if the connexion is not essential it must be accidental. This is why we cannot prove by geometry that contraries are studied by the same science, nor even that the product of two cubes is a cube.<sup>c</sup> Nor can a proposition of one science be proved by another science, except when the relation is such that the propositions of the one are subordinate to those of the other, as the propositions of optics are subordinate to geometry and those of harmonics to arithmetic. Nor can geometry decide whether a given attribute applies to lines otherwise than *qua* lines and derived from their own peculiar principles, *e.g.*, whether the straight line is the most beautiful of lines, or whether it is the contrary of the curved; for these attributes apply to lines not in virtue of their peculiar genus, but in virtue of a characteristic common to other genera.

VIII. It is also evident that if the premisses of the syllogism are universal, the conclusion of a demonstration of this kind—demonstration in the strict sense—must be eternal. Hence of connexions that are not eternal, there is no demonstration or knowledge in the strict sense, but only in the accidental sense that the attribute belongs to the subject not universally but at a given time or under given conditions. When this is so, the minor premiss must be non-eternal and non-universal: non-eternal because

Only eternal connexions can be demonstrated.

75 b

φθαρτὴν μὲν ὅτι καὶ<sup>1</sup> τὸ συμπέρασμα οὕσης, μὴ  
καθόλου δὲ ὅτι τῷ<sup>2</sup> μὲν ἔσται τῷ δὲ οὐκ ἔσται ἐφ'  
30 ὧν, ὥστε οὐκ ἔστι συλλογίσασθαι καθόλου, ἀλλ'  
ὅτι νῦν. ὁμοίως δ' ἔχει καὶ περὶ ὁρισμούς, ἐπεὶ περ  
ἐστὶν ὁ ὁρισμὸς ἢ ἀρχὴ ἀποδείξεως ἢ ἀπόδειξις  
θέσει διαφέρουσα ἢ συμπέρασμα τι ἀποδείξεως. αἱ  
δὲ τῶν πολλάκις γιγνομένων ἀποδείξεις καὶ ἐπι-  
στῆμαι, οἷον σελήνης ἐκλείψεως, δῆλον ὅτι ἡ μὲν  
35 τοιοῦδ'<sup>3</sup> εἰσὶν, αἰεὶ εἰσιν, ἡ δ' οὐκ αἰεὶ, κατὰ μέρος  
εἰσὶν. ὥσπερ δ' ἡ ἐκλείψις, ὡσαύτως τοῖς ἄλλοις.

IX. Ἐπεὶ δὲ φανερόν ὅτι ἕκαστον ἀποδείξαι οὐκ  
ἔστιν ἀλλ' ἢ ἐκ τῶν ἐκάστου ἀρχῶν, ἃν τὸ δεικνύ-  
μενον ὑπάρχη ἢ ἐκείνο, οὐκ ἔστι τὸ ἐπίστασθαι  
40 τοῦτο, ἃν ἐξ ἀληθῶν καὶ ἀναποδείκτων δειχθῇ καὶ  
ἀμέσων. ἔστι γὰρ οὕτω δεῖξαι, ὥσπερ Βρύσων τὸν  
τετραγωνισμόν. κατὰ κοινόν τε γὰρ δεικνύουσιν  
οἱ τοιοῦτοι λόγοι, ὃ καὶ ἐτέρῳ ὑπάρξει· διὸ καὶ  
76 a ἐπ' ἄλλων ἐφαρμόττουσιν οἱ λόγοι οὐ συγγενῶν.  
οὐκοῦν οὐχ ἡ ἐκείνο ἐπίσταται, ἀλλὰ κατὰ συμβε-  
βηκός· οὐ γὰρ ἂν ἐφήρμοττεν ἡ ἀπόδειξις καὶ ἐπ'  
ἄλλο γένος.

<sup>1</sup> καὶ] ἔσται καὶ n, Ross.

<sup>2</sup> τῷ . . . τῷ C<sup>1</sup>: τὸ . . . τὸ C<sup>2</sup> n: ᾧ . . . ᾧ ABd.

<sup>3</sup> τοιοῦδ' B, Philoponus: (μέν)τοι οὐδ' A: τοιαῖδ' C: alii alia.

<sup>a</sup> If the minor premiss stated an eternal connexion the conclusion would also be eternal.

<sup>b</sup> Cf. Book II, ch. x.

<sup>c</sup> What Bryson actually tried to prove is not clear (though the attempt is also described—guardedly—as 'squaring the circle' in *Soph. Elench.* 171 b 16, 172 a 3); but he seems to have used the comparative areas of inscribed and circumscribed figures, whether squares or polygons. The objection, however, is to his 'sophistical' method of starting from a

## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, I. VIII-IX

only so will the conclusion also be non-eternal,<sup>a</sup> and non-universal because the conclusion will be true in some cases but not in others, and so cannot be proved to be true universally, but only at a given time. Similarly too with respect to definitions, inasmuch as a definition is either a starting-point of demonstration, or a demonstration in a different form, or a conclusion of a demonstration.<sup>b</sup> It is clear that demonstration and knowledge of intermittent events, such as an eclipse of the moon, are eternal in so far as they refer to events of a specific kind ; but in so far as they are not eternal, they are particular. Attributes may apply intermittently to other subjects just as an eclipse does to the moon.

IX. Since it is evidently impossible to demonstrate the application of a particular attribute as such to its subject except from the first principles proper to its genus, scientific knowledge does not consist in proof from principles which are merely true, indemonstrable and immediate. I say this because one can conduct a proof in this way, just as Bryson, for example, proved his theory of squaring the circle <sup>c</sup> ; for such arguments prove the conclusion by using a common middle term which will refer equally to a different subject ; hence they are also applicable to subjects of other genera. Thus they enable us to know the attribute as applying to its subject not *qua* itself but only accidentally ; otherwise the demonstration would not be applicable to another genus also.

The premisses of demonstration must be peculiar to their own science,

general postulate of the form ' Things which are both greater than the same <set of> things and less than the same <set of> things are equal to one another ' (obviously invalid, by the way, unless the two sets taken together exhaust all the possibilities) instead of a geometrical axiom. See Heath, *Greek Mathematics*, I. 223-225 ; *Mathematics in Aristotle*, 48-50.

76 a

Ἐκαστον δ' ἐπιστάμεθα μὴ κατὰ σύμβεβηκός,  
 5 ὅταν κατ' ἐκείνο γιγνώσκωμεν καθ' ὃ ὑπάρχει, ἐκ  
 τῶν ἀρχῶν τῶν ἐκείνου ἢ ἐκείνο, οἷον τὸ δυσὶν  
 ὀρθαῖς ἴσας ἔχειν, ὧ ὑπάρχει καθ' αὐτὸ τὸ εἰρη-  
 μένον, ἐκ τῶν ἀρχῶν τῶν τούτου. ὥστ' εἰ καθ'  
 αὐτὸ καὶ ἐκείνο ὑπάρχει ὧ ὑπάρχει, ἀνάγκη τὸ μέσον  
 10 ἐν τῇ αὐτῇ συγγενείᾳ εἶναι. εἰ δὲ μή, ἀλλ' ὡς τὰ  
 ἀρμονικὰ δι' ἀριθμητικῆς. τὰ δὲ τοιαῦτα δείκνυται  
 μὲν ὡσαύτως, διαφέρει δέ· τὸ μὲν γὰρ ὅτι ἑτέρας  
 ἐπιστήμης (τὸ γὰρ ὑποκείμενον γένος ἕτερον), τὸ  
 δὲ διότι τῆς ἄνω, ἧς καθ' αὐτὰ τὰ πάθη ἐστίν.  
 ὥστε καὶ ἐκ τούτων φανερόν ὅτι οὐκ ἔστιν ἀποδεί-  
 15 ξαι ἕκαστον ἀπλῶς, ἀλλ' ἢ ἐκ τῶν ἐκάστου ἀρχῶν.  
 ἀλλὰ τούτων αἱ ἀρχαὶ ἔχουσι τὸ κοινόν.

Εἰ δὲ φανερόν τοῦτο, φανερόν καὶ ὅτι οὐκ ἔστι  
 τὰς ἐκάστου ἰδίᾳς ἀρχὰς ἀποδείξαι· ἔσονται γὰρ  
 ἐκείναι ἀπάντων ἀρχαί, καὶ ἐπιστήμη ἢ ἐκείνων  
 κυρία πάντων. καὶ γὰρ ἐπίσταται μᾶλλον ὁ ἐκ τῶν  
 20 ἀνώτερον<sup>1</sup> αἰτίων εἰδώς· ἐκ τῶν προτέρων γὰρ  
 οἶδεν ὅταν ἐκ μὴ αἰτιατῶν εἰδῇ αἰτίων. ὥστ' εἰ  
 μᾶλλον οἶδε καὶ μάλιστα, καὶ ἐπιστήμη ἐκείνη εἴη  
 καὶ μᾶλλον καὶ μάλιστα. ἢ δ' ἀπόδειξις οὐκ ἐφαρ-  
 μόττει ἐπ' ἄλλο γένος, ἀλλ' ἢ ὡς εἴρηται αἱ γεώ-

<sup>1</sup> ἀνωτέρων A<sup>2</sup>d : ἀνωτέρω B<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>a</sup> The middle term, subject of the major, predicate of the minor premiss.

<sup>b</sup> e.g., Plato's dialectic, which Aristotle repudiates.

<sup>c</sup> 75 b 14 ff., 76 a 9 ff.



## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, I. IX

Our knowledge of any given attribute is only non-accidental when we recognize it in respect of the subject in virtue of which it is an attribute, and from the principles proper to that subject as such ; *e.g.*, the attribute of "having the sum of its angles equal to two right angles" as belonging to the subject to which it applies *per se*, and from the principles proper to this subject. Therefore if this latter term <sup>a</sup> applies *per se* to its own subject, the middle must belong to the same genus as the extreme terms. The only exceptions are such as the propositions of harmonics which are proved by arithmetic. Such propositions are proved in the same way, but with this difference ; that while the fact proved belongs to a different science (for the subject genus is different), the grounds of the fact belong to the superior science, to which the attributes belong *per se*. Thus it is evident from these considerations also that absolute demonstration of any attribute is impossible except from its own principles. In the examples just given, however, the principles have a common element.

If this is evident, it is evident also that the special principles of each genus cannot be demonstrated ; for the principles from which they would be demonstrable would be principles of all existing things, and the science of those principles would be supreme over all.<sup>b</sup> For a man knows a fact in a truer sense if he knows it from more ultimate causes, since he knows it from prior premisses when he knows it from causes which are themselves uncaused. Thus if he knows in a truer or the truest sense, his knowledge will be science in a truer or the truest sense. However, demonstration is not applicable to a different genus, except as we have explained <sup>c</sup> that geometrical proofs

except in the case of subaltern sciences.

Hence the special principles of the sciences are indemonstrable.

76 a

μετρικαὶ ἐπὶ τὰς μηχανικὰς ἢ ὀπτικὰς καὶ αἱ  
25 ἀριθμητικαὶ ἐπὶ τὰς ἁρμονικάς.

Χαλεπὸν δ' ἐστὶ τὸ γινῶναι εἰ οἶδεν ἢ μή. χαλε-  
πὸν γὰρ τὸ γινῶναι εἰ ἐκ τῶν ἐκάστου ἀρχῶν ἴσμεν  
ἢ μή· ὅπερ ἐστὶ τὸ εἰδέναι. οἰόμεθα δ', ἂν ἔχωμεν  
ἐξ ἀληθινῶν τινῶν συλλογισμόν καὶ πρώτων, ἐπί-  
30 στασθαι. τὸ δ' οὐκ ἔστιν, ἀλλὰ συγγενῇ δεῖ εἶναι  
τοῖς πρώτοις.

Χ. Λέγω δ' ἀρχὰς ἐν ἐκάστω γενεῖ ταύτας ὥς  
ὅτι ἔστι μὴ ἐνδέχεται δεῖξαι. τί μὲν οὖν σημαίνει  
καὶ τὰ πρῶτα καὶ τὰ ἐκ τούτων, λαμβάνεται, ὅτι  
δ' ἔστι, τὰς μὲν ἀρχὰς ἀνάγκη λαμβάνειν, τὰ δ'  
35 ἄλλα δεικνύναι, οἷον τί μονὰς ἢ τί τὸ εὐθύ καὶ τρί-  
γωνον· εἶναι δὲ τὴν μὲν μονάδα λαβεῖν καὶ μέγεθος,  
τὰ δ' ἕτερα δεικνύναι.

Ἔστι δ' ὧν χρώνται ἐν ταῖς ἀποδεικτικαῖς ἐπιστή-  
μας τὰ μὲν ἴδια ἐκάστης ἐπιστήμης τὰ δὲ κοινά,  
κοινὰ δὲ κατ' ἀναλογίαν, ἐπεὶ χρήσιμόν γε ὅσον ἐν  
40 τῷ ὑπὸ τὴν ἐπιστήμην γενεῖ. ἴδια μὲν οἷον γραμμὴν  
εἶναι τοιανδί, καὶ τὸ εὐθύ, κοινὰ δὲ οἷον τὸ ἴσα ἀπὸ  
ἴσων ἂν ἀφέλῃ ὅτι ἴσα τὰ λοιπά. ἱκανὸν δ' ἕκαστον  
76 b τούτων ὅσον ἐν τῷ γενεῖ· ταῦτ' οὖν ποιήσῃ, κὰν  
μὴ κατὰ πάντων λάβῃ ἀλλ' ἐπὶ μεγεθῶν μόνον, τῷ  
68

## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, I. IX-X

apply to the propositions of mechanics or optics, and arithmetical proofs to those of harmonics.

It is difficult to be certain whether one knows or not ; for it is difficult to be certain whether our knowledge is based upon the principles appropriate to each case—it is this that constitutes true knowledge—or not. We suppose that we have scientific knowledge if we draw an inference from any true and primary premisses, but it is not so ; the inference must be homogeneous with the primary truths of the science.

X. I call “ first principles ” in each genus those facts which cannot be proved. Thus the meaning both of the primary truths and of the attributes demonstrated from them is assumed ; as for their existence, that of the principles must be assumed, but that of the attributes must be proved. *E.g.*, we assume the meaning of “ unit,” “ straight ” and “ triangular ” ; but while we assume the existence of the unit and geometrical magnitude, that of the rest must be proved.

Every science assumes certain principles.

Of the first principles used in the demonstrative sciences some are special to particular sciences, and some are common ; but only in the analogical sense, since each is only to be employed in so far as it is contained in the genus which falls under the science concerned. Special principles are such as that a line, or straightness, is of such-and-such a nature ; common principles are such as that when equals are taken from equals the remainders are equal. Each of these latter truths need only be assumed for the given genus. The effect will be the same for the geometician if he assumes the truth not universally but only of magnitudes, and for the arithmetician if he assumes

which are either special to it, or special aspects of a common principle.

76 b

δ' ἀριθμητικῶ ἐπ' ἀριθμῶν. ἔστι δ' ἴδια μὲν καὶ  
 ἃ λαμβάνεται εἶναι, περὶ ἃ ἡ ἐπιστήμη θεωρεῖ τὰ  
 5 ὑπάρχοντα καθ' αὐτά, οἷον μονάδας ἢ ἀριθμητική, ἡ  
 δὲ γεωμετρία σημεῖα καὶ γραμμάς. ταῦτα γὰρ  
 λαμβάνουσι τὸ εἶναι καὶ τοδὶ εἶναι. τὰ δὲ τούτων  
 πάθη καθ' αὐτά, τί μὲν σημαίνει ἕκαστον, λαμβά-  
 νουσιν, οἷον ἡ μὲν ἀριθμητικὴ τί περιττὸν ἢ ἄρτιον  
 ἢ τετράγωνον ἢ κύβος, ἡ δὲ γεωμετρία τί τὸ ἄλογον  
 10 ἢ τὸ κεκλάσθαι ἢ νεύειν, ὅτι δ' ἔστι δεικνύουσι διὰ  
 τε τῶν κοινῶν καὶ ἐκ τῶν ἀποδεδειγμένων. καὶ ἡ  
 ἀστρολογία ὡσαύτως.

Πᾶσα γὰρ ἀποδεικτικὴ ἐπιστήμη περὶ τρία ἐστίν,  
 ὅσα τε εἶναι τίθεται (ταῦτα δ' ἐστὶ τὸ γένος, οὗ τῶν  
 καθ' αὐτὰ παθημάτων ἐστὶ θεωρητική), καὶ τὰ  
 κοινὰ λεγόμενα ἀξιώματα, ἐξ ὧν πρώτων ἀποδείκ-  
 15 ννσι, καὶ τρίτον τὰ πάθη, ὧν τί σημαίνει ἕκαστον  
 λαμβάνει. ἐνίας μέντοι ἐπιστήμας οὐδὲν κωλύει  
 ἔνια τούτων παρορᾶν, οἷον τὸ γένος μὴ ὑποτίθεσθαι  
 εἶναι ἂν ἢ φανερόν ὅτι ἔστιν (οὐ γὰρ ὁμοίως δῆλον  
 ὅτι ἀριθμὸς ἔστι καὶ ὅτι ψυχρὸν καὶ θερμόν), καὶ  
 20 τὰ πάθη μὴ λαμβάνειν τί σημαίνει ἂν ἢ δῆλα·  
 ὥσπερ οὐδὲ τὰ κοινὰ οὐ λαμβάνει τί σημαίνει τὸ  
 ἴσα ἀπὸ ἴσων ἀφελεῖν, ὅτι γνώριμον. ἀλλ' οὐδὲν  
 ἦττον τῇ γε φύσει τρία ταῦτά ἐστι, περὶ ὃ τε δείκ-  
 ννσι καὶ ἃ δείκννσι καὶ ἐξ ὧν.

Οὐκ ἔστι δ' ὑπόθεσις οὐδ' αἴτημα ὃ ἀνάγκη  
 εἶναι δι' αὐτὸ καὶ δοκεῖν ἀνάγκη. οὐ γὰρ πρὸς τὸν

<sup>a</sup> νεύειν is used technically of a straight line's tending, when produced, to pass through a given point. The term is unimportant and scarcely appropriate here; I suggest a more general sense.

<sup>b</sup> They are common only by analogy; cf. 75 a 38. Ross compares *Met.* 1005 a 20 τὰ ἐν τοῖς μαθήμασι καλούμενα ἀξιώ-



## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, I. x

it only of numbers. Also special to each science are those subjects whose existence it assumes, and whose essential attributes it studies, as arithmetic studies units and geometry points and lines. Of these subjects both the existence and the meaning are assumed; but of their essential attributes only the meaning is assumed. *E.g.*, arithmetic assumes the meaning of odd or even or square or cube, and geometry that of incommensurable or of deflection or inclination<sup>a</sup>; but their existence is proved by means of the common principles and from conclusions already demonstrated. The same is true of astronomy.

Every demonstrative science is concerned with three things: the subjects which it posits (*i.e.*, the genus whose essential attributes it studies), the so-called<sup>b</sup> common axioms upon which the demonstration is ultimately based, and thirdly the attributes whose several meanings it assumes. There is no reason, however, why certain sciences should not disregard some of these three things; *e.g.*, omit to posit the existence of the genus if its existence is evident (for the existence of number is not so obvious as that of hot and cold), or to assume the meaning of the attributes if it is quite clear; just as in the case of the common principles the meaning of "when equals are subtracted from equals the remainders are equal" is not assumed, because it is well known. Nevertheless there holds good this natural threefold division into the subject, the object, and the basis of demonstration.

That which is in itself necessarily true and must be thought to be so is not a hypothesis nor a postulate;

Thus there are three kinds of primary premiss, though not all need be explicitly assumed.

Axioms, hypotheses and postulates.

*ματα.* If the term was generally accepted by mathematicians in Aristotle's time, it was abandoned by Euclid.

76 b

- 25 ἔξω λόγον ἢ ἀπόδειξις, ἀλλὰ πρὸς τὸν ἐν τῇ ψυχῇ, ἐπεὶ οὐδὲ συλλογισμός. ἀεὶ γὰρ ἔστιν ἐνστήναι πρὸς τὸν ἔξω λόγον, ἀλλὰ πρὸς τὸν ἔσω λόγον οὐκ ἀεὶ. ὅσα μὲν οὖν δεικτὰ ὄντα λαμβάνει αὐτὸς μὴ δείξας, ταῦτ', ἐὰν μὲν δοκοῦντα λαμβάνῃ τῷ μανθάνοντι, ὑποτίθεται, καὶ ἔστιν οὐχ ἀπλῶς ὑπόθεσις
- 30 ἀλλὰ πρὸς ἐκείνον μόνον, ἃν δὲ ἡ μηδεμιᾶς ἐνούσης δόξης ἢ καὶ ἐναντίας ἐνούσης λαμβάνῃ τὸ αὐτό, αἰτεῖται. καὶ τούτῳ διαφέρει ὑπόθεσις καὶ αἴτημα· ἔστι γὰρ αἴτημα τὸ ὑπεναντίον τοῦ μανθάνοντος τῇ δόξῃ, ἢ ὃ ἂν τις ἀποδεικτὸν ὄν λαμβάνῃ καὶ χρήται μὴ δείξας.
- 35 Οἱ μὲν οὖν ὅροι οὐκ εἰσὶν ὑποθέσεις (οὐδὲν<sup>1</sup> γὰρ εἶναι ἢ μὴ εἶναι λέγεται<sup>2</sup>), ἀλλ' ἐν ταῖς προτάσεσιν αἱ ὑποθέσεις. τοὺς δ' ὅρους μόνον ξυνίεσθαι δεῖ· τοῦτο δ' οὐχ ὑπόθεσις, εἰ μὴ καὶ τὸ ἀκούειν ὑποθεσὶν τις φήσειεν εἶναι, ἀλλ' ὅσων ὄντων τῷ ἐκείνα εἶναι γίνεται τὸ συμπέρασμα. οὐδ' ὁ γεωμέτρης
- 40 ψευδῇ ὑποτίθεται, ὥσπερ τινὲς ἔφασαν, λέγοντες ὡς οὐ δεῖ τῷ ψεύδει χρῆσθαι, τὸν δὲ γεωμέτρην ψεύδεσθαι λέγοντα ποδιαίαν τὴν οὐ ποδιαίαν ἢ εὐθείαν
- 77 a τὴν γεγραμμένην οὐκ εὐθείαν οὖσαν. ὁ δὲ γεωμέτρης οὐδὲν συμπεραίνεται τῷ τήνδε εἶναι γραμμὴν ἣν αὐτὸς ἔφθεγκται, ἀλλὰ τὰ διὰ τούτων δηλούμενα.

<sup>1</sup> οὐδὲν ABdn, Philoponus : οὐδὲ B<sup>2</sup>C.<sup>2</sup> Ross : λέγονται.

<sup>a</sup> The axioms used in demonstration appeal directly to the inner reason and are accepted by it, but the assumptions of spoken argument or instruction are always open to verbal objection.

<sup>b</sup> There is perhaps a reference to the narrower sense of hypothesis given in 72 a 18 ff.

<sup>c</sup> I doubt whether "two definitions of αἴτημα are offered"

for demonstration, like syllogism, is concerned not with external but with internal discourse ; and it is always possible to object to the former, but not always possible to do so to the latter.<sup>a</sup> Thus any provable proposition that a teacher assumes without proving it, if the student accepts it, is a hypothesis—a hypothesis not absolutely but relatively to the student<sup>b</sup> ; but the same assumption, if it is made when the student has no opinion or a contrary opinion about it, is a postulate. This is the difference between a hypothesis and a postulate ; the latter is the contrary of the student's opinion, or any provable proposition that is assumed and used without being proved.<sup>c</sup>

Definitions are not hypotheses, because they make no assertion of existence or non-existence. Hypotheses have their place among propositions, whereas definitions only need to be understood ; and this does not constitute a hypothesis, unless it is claimed that listening is a kind of hypothesis.<sup>d</sup> Hypotheses consist of assumptions from which the conclusion follows in virtue of their being what they are. Thus the geometrician's hypotheses are not false, as some have maintained, saying that one should not make use of falsehood, and that the geometrician is guilty of falsehood in asserting that the line which he has drawn is a foot long, or straight, when it is not ; the geometrician does not infer anything from the existence of the particular line which he himself has mentioned, but only from the facts which his diagrams

Definition distinguished from hypothesis.

here, as Ross concludes. What Aristotle appears to say is that any provable but unproved assumption is a postulate unless it is accepted by the respondent, when it becomes (relatively to him) a hypothesis.

<sup>a</sup> If the qualification is not entirely sarcastic it may hint that listening implies some degree of acceptance.

77 a

ἔτι τὸ αἴτημα καὶ ὑπόθεσις πᾶσα ἢ ὡς ὅλον ἢ ὡς ἐν μέρει, οἱ δ' ὅροι οὐδέτερον τούτων.

- 5 XI. Εἶδη μὲν οὖν εἶναι ἢ ἐν τι παρὰ τὰ πολλὰ οὐκ ἀνάγκη, εἰ ἀπόδειξις ἔσται, εἶναι μέντοι ἐν κατὰ πολλῶν ἀληθὲς εἰπεῖν ἀνάγκη· οὐ γὰρ ἔσται τὸ καθόλου ἂν μὴ τοῦτο ἦ· ἐὰν δὲ τὸ καθόλου μὴ ἦ, τὸ μέσον οὐκ ἔσται, ὥστ' οὐδ' ἀπόδειξις. δεῖ ἄρα τι ἐν καὶ τὸ αὐτὸ ἐπὶ πλειόνων εἶναι μὴ ὁμῶν-  
νυμον.<sup>1</sup>
- 10 Τὸ δὲ μὴ ἐνδέχεσθαι ἅμα φάναι καὶ ἀποφάναι οὐδεμία λαμβάνει ἀπόδειξις ἀλλ' ἢ ἐὰν δέῃ δεῖξαι καὶ τὸ συμπέρασμα οὕτως. δείκνυται δὲ λαβοῦσι τὸ πρῶτον κατὰ τοῦ μέσου ὅτι ἀληθές, ἀποφάναι δ' οὐκ ἀληθές. τὸ δὲ μέσον οὐδὲν διαφέρει εἶναι καὶ
- 15 μὴ εἶναι λαβεῖν, ὡς δ' αὐτως καὶ τὸ τρίτον. εἰ γὰρ ἐδόθη καθ' οὗ ἄνθρωπον ἀληθὲς εἰπεῖν—εἰ καὶ μὴ ἄνθρωπον ἀληθές, ἀλλ' εἰ μόνον ἄνθρωπον—ζῶον εἶναι, μὴ ζῶον δὲ μὴ, ἔσται [γὰρ]<sup>2</sup> ἀληθὲς εἰπεῖν Καλλίαν, εἰ καὶ μὴ Καλλίαν, ὅμως ζῶον, μὴ ζῶον δ' οὐ. αἴτιον δ' ὅτι τὸ πρῶτον οὐ μόνον κατὰ τοῦ
- 20 μέσου λέγεται ἀλλὰ καὶ κατ' ἄλλου διὰ τὸ εἶναι ἐπὶ πλειόνων, ὥστ' οὐδ' εἰ τὸ μέσον καὶ αὐτό ἐστι καὶ μὴ αὐτό, πρὸς τὸ συμπέρασμα οὐδὲν διαφέρει.

<sup>1</sup> εἶδη μὲν οὖν . . . ὁμώνυμον ad 83 a 35 transponenda ci. Ross.

<sup>2</sup> seclussit Ross.

<sup>a</sup> Cf. *An. Pr.* 49 b 35, *Met.* 1078 a 20.

<sup>b</sup> Aristotle's objection to the Platonic Forms is that they exist independently of particulars, whereas his own universals are abstractions. The paragraph seems to be displaced. Ross would transfer it to 83 a 35.

<sup>c</sup> Because the middle must be distributed in at least one premiss.



## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, I. x-xi

illustrate.<sup>a</sup> Further, all postulates and hypotheses are either universal or particular, whereas definitions are neither.

✓ XI. It is not necessary, in order to make demonstration possible, that there should be Forms or some One apart from the Many<sup>b</sup>; but it is necessary that it should be true to state a single predicate of a plurality of subjects. Otherwise there will be no universal term; and if there is no universal there will be no middle term,<sup>c</sup> and hence no demonstration. Therefore there must be something which is one and the same above the several particulars, and does not merely share a common name with them.<sup>d</sup>

Demonstration needs universals, but not Forms.

No demonstration makes use of the principle that simultaneous assertion and negation are impossible, unless it is required to prove the conclusion also in this form.<sup>e</sup> The proof is effected by assuming that it is true to assert and not true to deny the first term of the middle. It makes no difference to add the negation of the contradictory to the middle or to the third term. For if it is granted that whatever is truly called "man" is truly called an animal—even if "not-man" is also truly called an animal, provided only that it is true that man is an animal, and not true that he is not an animal—it will be true to call Callias an animal even if it is true to call not-Callias an animal, and it will not be true to call him not-animal. The reason for this is that the first term is stated not only of the middle but also of another term or terms, because it has a wider extension; so that even if the middle term is both itself and its contradictory the conclusion is unaffected.

How demonstration uses the Law of Contradiction

<sup>a</sup> *Sc.*, without sharing their common character.

<sup>e</sup> In the form "C is A and not not-A."

77 a

Τὸ δ' ἅπαν φάναι ἢ ἀποφάναι ἢ εἰς τὸ ἀδύνατον ἀποδείξας λαμβάνει, καὶ ταῦτα οὐδ' αἰεὶ καθόλου, ἀλλ' ὅσον ἱκανόν, ἱκανὸν δ' ἐπὶ τοῦ γένους. λέγω  
 25 δ' ἐπὶ τοῦ γένους οἷον περὶ ὃ γένος τὰς ἀποδείξεις φέρει, ὥσπερ εἴρηται καὶ πρότερον.

Ἐπικοινωνοῦσι δὲ πᾶσαι αἱ ἐπιστῆμαι ἀλλήλαις κατὰ τὰ κοινὰ (κοινὰ δὲ λέγω οἷς χρῶνται ὡς ἐκ τούτων ἀποδεικνύντες, ἀλλ' οὐ περὶ ὧν δεικνύουσιν οὐδ' ὃ δεικνύουσι), καὶ ἡ διαλεκτικὴ πάσαις, καὶ εἴ  
 30 τις καθόλου πειρῶτο δεικνύναι τὰ κοινὰ, οἷον ὅτι ἅπαν φάναι ἢ ἀποφάναι, ἢ ὅτι ἴσα ἀπὸ ἴσων, ἢ τῶν τοιούτων ἅττα. ἡ δὲ διαλεκτικὴ οὐκ ἔστιν οὕτως ὠρισμένων τινῶν, οὐδὲ γένους τινὸς ἐνός. οὐ γὰρ ἂν ἡρώτα· ἀποδεικνύντα γὰρ οὐκ ἔστιν ἐρωτᾶν διὰ τὸ τῶν ἀντικειμένων ὄντων μὴ δείκνυσθαι τὸ αὐτό.  
 35 δέδεικται δὲ τοῦτο ἐν τοῖς περὶ συλλογισμοῦ.

XII. Εἰ δὲ τὸ αὐτό ἐστὶν ἐρώτημα συλλογιστικὸν καὶ πρότασις ἀντιφάσεως, προτάσεις δὲ καθ' ἑκάσ-

<sup>a</sup> 76 a 42.

<sup>b</sup> The reference is probably to *An. Pr.* 57 b 4 ff. Dialectic proceeds by interrogation, giving the opponent an open choice between opposite answers, either of which it is prepared to attack. Science is concerned with the proof of facts; and since the same conclusion cannot be correctly inferred from opposite data, the "questions" of science offer no real choice, because only the right answer will furnish a true premiss for the required proof.

<sup>c</sup> By "syllogistic question" Aristotle means the interrogative form of an affirmative or negative premiss from which it is proposed to draw a scientific conclusion. Since (as we

## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, I. XI-XII

The law that either the assertion or the negation of every predicate must be true is used in demonstration by *reductio ad impossibile*. It is not always applied universally, but only so far as is sufficient, *i.e.*, in reference to the genus. By "in reference to the genus" I mean, *e.g.*, as regards the genus which is the subject of the demonstrations in question, as we have observed above.<sup>a</sup>

and the Law  
of Excluded  
Middle.

All the sciences share with one another in the use of the common principles. By "common principles" I mean what they use for the purpose of demonstration, not the subjects about which they conduct their proofs, nor the connexions which they prove. Dialectic shares the principles of all the other sciences; and so too would any science which might attempt to prove universally the common principles, *e.g.*, that either the assertion or the negation of every predicate is true, or that equals subtracted from equals leave equal remainders, or any other axioms of this kind. But dialectic has no sphere thus defined, nor is it concerned with any one class of objects. If it were, it would not proceed by interrogation; for interrogation is impossible in demonstration, since the opposite facts do not allow proof of the same result. This has been explained in my treatise on the syllogism.<sup>b</sup>

All the  
sciences,  
and dia-  
lectic too,  
use the  
common  
axioms.

XII. If a syllogistic question is the same as a proposition stating one half of a contradiction,<sup>c</sup> and every science has its own premisses from which are

Every  
science has  
its proper  
questions.

have seen) only the right answer will serve, Ross regards *ἐρώτημα* as meaning "assumption" in this chapter. But Aristotle seems (to judge from the context and the examples quoted below) to be thinking of discussion rather than formal demonstration, so that the normal sense should perhaps be preferred.

77 a

την ἐπιστήμην ἐξ ὧν ὁ συλλογισμὸς ὁ καθ' ἐκάστην,  
 εἷη ἂν τι ἐρώτημα ἐπιστημονικόν, ἐξ ὧν ὁ καθ'  
 40 ἐκάστην οἰκείως γίνγεται συλλογισμός. δῆλον ἄρα  
 ὅτι οὐ πᾶν ἐρώτημα γεωμετρικὸν ἂν εἷη οὐδ' ἰατρι-  
 77 b κόν, ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων· ἀλλ' ἐξ ὧν<sup>1</sup>  
 δείκνυται τι περὶ ὧν ἡ γεωμετρία ἐστίν, ἢ ᾧ<sup>2</sup> ἐκ  
 τῶν αὐτῶν δείκνυται τῇ γεωμετρίας, ὥσπερ τὰ ὀπ-  
 τικά. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων. καὶ περὶ  
 μὲν τούτων καὶ λόγον ὑφεκτέον ἐκ τῶν γεωμετρικῶν  
 5 ἀρχῶν καὶ συμπερασμάτων, περὶ δὲ τῶν ἀρχῶν  
 λόγον οὐχ ὑφεκτέον τῷ γεωμέτρῃ ἢ γεωμέτρῃς·  
 ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων ἐπιστημῶν.

Οὐτε πᾶν ἄρα ἕκαστον ἐπιστήμονα ἐρώτημα ἐρω-  
 τητέον, οὐθ' ἅπαν τὸ ἐρωτώμενον ἀποκριτέον περὶ  
 ἐκάστου, ἀλλὰ τὰ κατὰ τὴν ἐπιστήμην διορισθέντα.  
 10 εἰ δὲ διαλέξεται γεωμέτρῃ ἢ γεωμέτρῃς οὕτως,  
 φανερόν ὅτι καὶ καλῶς, εἰς ἐκ τούτων τι δεικνύη·  
 εἰ δὲ μή, οὐ καλῶς. δῆλον δ' ὅτι οὐδ' ἐλέγχει  
 γεωμέτρην ἀλλ' ἢ κατὰ συμβεβηκός· ὥστ' οὐκ ἂν  
 εἷη ἐν ἀγεωμετρήτοις περὶ γεωμετρίας διαλεκτέον·  
 λήσει γὰρ ὁ φαύλως διαλεγόμενος. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ  
 15 ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων ἔχει ἐπιστημῶν.

Ἐπεὶ δ' ἔστι γεωμετρικὰ ἐρωτήματα, ἅρ' ἔστι  
 καὶ ἀγεωμέτρητα; καὶ παρ' ἐκάστην ἐπιστήμην  
 τὰ κατὰ τὴν ἄγνοιαν τὴν ποίαν<sup>3</sup> γεωμετρικά

<sup>1</sup> ὧν ἢ ABCd.<sup>2</sup> om. ABC<sup>2</sup>d.<sup>3</sup> ποίαν A<sup>2</sup>, Philoponus : ποιάν.

<sup>a</sup> Because the principles of a science are assumed, not proved, by that science.



drawn the conclusions proper to that science, then there must be a scientific question corresponding to the premisses from which the conclusions proper to science are drawn. Hence it is clear that not every question will be geometrical (or medical, and similarly with the other sciences), but only those which correspond to the grounds for the proof of geometrical theorems, or the theorems of any science, such as optics, which uses for its proofs the same axioms as geometry (and similarly with the other sciences). Of these questions the geometrician must give an account, based upon the principles and conclusions of geometry; but he need not, as a geometrician, account for the principles <sup>a</sup> (and similarly with the other sciences).

Hence we must not ask every question of each individual expert, nor is the expert bound to answer everything that is asked him about each given subject, but only such questions as fall within the scope of his own science. If in arguing with a geometrician *qua* geometrician one argues by proving any given point from geometrical principles, evidently he will be arguing properly; otherwise he will not. It is clear also that in the latter case one cannot refute a geometrician, except accidentally.<sup>b</sup> Therefore one should not discuss geometry among people who are not geometricians, because they will not recognize an unsound argument. The same applies to all other sciences.

Since there are geometrical questions, are there also ungeometrical questions? In any given science (*e.g.* geometry), what sort of ignorance is it that

Sources of  
Error in  
scientific  
reasoning.

<sup>b</sup> Because *qua* geometrician he can only be refuted by a geometrical argument.

77 b

ἐστίν;<sup>1</sup> καὶ πότερον ὁ κατὰ τὴν ἄγνοϊαν συλλογισ-  
 20 μὸς ὁ ἐκ τῶν ἀντικειμένων συλλογισμὸς, ἢ ὁ<sup>2</sup> παρα-  
 λογισμὸς, κατὰ γεωμετρίαν δέ; ἢ ἐξ ἄλλης τέχνης,  
 οἷον τὸ μουσικόν ἐστὶν ἐρώτημα ἀγεωμέτρητον  
 περὶ γεωμετρίας, τὸ δὲ τὰς παραλλήλους συμπί-  
 πτειν οἶεσθαι γεωμετρικόν πως καὶ ἀγεωμέτρητον  
 25 ἄλλον τρόπον; διττὸν γὰρ τοῦτο, ὥσπερ τὸ ἄρρυθ-  
 μον, καὶ τὸ μὲν ἕτερον ἀγεωμέτρητον τῷ μὴ ἔχειν  
 [ὥσπερ τὸ ἄρρυθμον],<sup>3</sup> τὸ δ' ἕτερον τῷ φαύλως  
 ἔχειν· καὶ ἡ ἄγνοια αὕτη καὶ<sup>4</sup> ἡ ἐκ τῶν τοιούτων  
 ἀρχῶν ἐναντία. ἐν δὲ τοῖς μαθήμασιν οὐκ ἐστὶν  
 ὁμοίως ὁ παραλογισμὸς, ὅτι τὸ μέσον ἐστὶν αἰεὶ τὸ<sup>5</sup>  
 διττόν· κατὰ τε γὰρ τούτου παντός, καὶ τοῦτο πάλιν  
 30 κατ' ἄλλου λέγεται παντός· τὸ δὲ κατηγορούμενον  
 οὐ λέγεται πᾶν. ταῦτα δ' ἐστὶν οἷον ὁρᾶν τῇ νοήσει,  
 ἐν δὲ τοῖς λόγοις λανθάνει. ἄρα πᾶς κύκλος σχῆμα;  
 ἂν δὲ γράψῃ, δῆλον. τί δέ; τὰ ἔπη κύκλος; φανε-  
 ρὸν ὅτι οὐκ ἐστὶν.

Οὐ δεῖ δ' ἐνστασιν εἰς αὐτὸ φέρειν ἐν ᾗ<sup>6</sup> ἢ πρό-

<sup>1</sup> ἐστὶν καὶ ἀγεωμέτρητα *f*: ἐστὶν ἢ ἀγεωμέτρητα Bekker.

<sup>2</sup> ὁ om. Cn.

<sup>3</sup> secl. Mure.

<sup>4</sup> καὶ om. Aldina, Bekker.

<sup>5</sup> om. C<sup>2</sup>d.

<sup>6</sup> ἐν ᾗ ci. Ross, leg. fort. comm.: ἂν ᾗ.

<sup>a</sup> *i.e.* relevant although mistaken. A "question" may be (a) proper to a given science, but "ignorant" because based (1) on false premisses or (2) false inference from true premisses, or (b) proper to a quite different science.

<sup>b</sup> Cf. *Met.* 1022 b 35.

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makes questions still geometrical? <sup>a</sup> Is an ignorant conclusion one which is drawn from premisses opposite to the true ones, or an inference which though invalid is nevertheless geometrical? Or is it an inference drawn from a different science, as, *e.g.*, a musical question is ungeometrical with reference to geometry, while to think that parallel lines meet is in a sense geometrical, although in another sense ungeometrical? (For "ungeometrical," like "unrhythmical," has two senses; in one sense a thing is ungeometrical because it lacks the quality altogether, and in another sense because it possesses the quality but slightly.<sup>b</sup>) It is ignorance in this latter sense, *i.e.*, ignorance which proceeds from premisses of this kind,<sup>c</sup> which is contrary to scientific knowledge. In mathematics formal invalidity is not so common, because it is always the middle term that provides the ambiguity (for one term is predicated of all the middle, and this in turn is predicated of all another, but the predicate is not distributed <sup>d</sup>); and in mathematics middle terms are clearly visualized whereas ambiguities pass unnoticed in dialectical argument. "Is every circle a figure?" If one draws a circle the answer is obvious. "Well, are the epic poems <sup>e</sup> a circle?" Evidently they are not.

One should not meet an argument with an objec- Objections

<sup>a</sup> Exhibiting defective knowledge of the right science.

<sup>d</sup> Aristotle is thinking of a syllogism in Barbara, the only figure useful for demonstration.

<sup>e</sup> The Epic Cycle was the name given to a sequence of early epic poems which, supplementing the *Iliad* and *Odyssey*, narrated the whole story of the Trojan War (and perhaps also the legends connected with Thebes). To call this "cycle" a "circle" would be an absurd quibble, although the words are the same in Greek.

77 b

35 τασις ἐπακτική. ὥσπερ γὰρ οὐδὲ πρότασις ἐστὶν ἢ μὴ ἐστὶν ἐπὶ πλειόνων (οὐ γὰρ ἔσται ἐπὶ πάντων, ἐκ τῶν καθόλου δ' ὁ συλλογισμός), δῆλον ὅτι οὐδ' ἐνστασις. αἱ αὐταὶ γὰρ προτάσεις καὶ ἐνστάσεις· ἦν γὰρ φέρει ἐνστασιν, αὕτη γένοιτ' ἂν πρότασις ἢ ἀποδεικτική ἢ διαλεκτική.

40 Συμβαίνει δ' ἐνίους ἀσυλλογίστως λέγειν διὰ τὸ λαμβάνειν ἀμφοτέροις τὰ ἐπόμενα, οἷον καὶ ὁ

78 a Καίνεὺς ποιεῖ, ὅτι τὸ πῦρ ἐν τῇ πολλαπλασίᾳ ἀναλογίᾳ· καὶ γὰρ τὸ πῦρ ταχὺ γεννᾶται, ὥς φησι, καὶ αὕτη ἡ ἀναλογία. οὕτω δ' οὐκ ἔστι συλλογισμός· ἀλλ' εἰ τῇ ταχίστῃ ἀναλογίᾳ ἔπεται ἡ πολλαπλάσιος καὶ τῷ πυρὶ ἡ ταχίστῃ ἐν τῇ κινήσει ἀναλογία. ἐνίετε μὲν οὖν οὐκ ἐνδέχεται συλλογίσασθαι ἐκ τῶν εἰλημμένων, ὅτε δ' ἐνδέχεται, ἀλλ' οὐχ ὁράται.

Εἰ δ' ἦν ἀδύνατον ἐκ ψεύδους ἀληθὲς δεῖξαι, ῥάδιον ἂν ἦν τὸ ἀναλύειν· ἀντέστρεφε γὰρ ἂν ἐξ ἀνάγκης. ἔστω γὰρ τὸ Α ὃν· τούτου δ' ὄντος ταδὶ

10 ἔστιν, ἃ οἶδα ὅτι ἔστιν, οἷον τὸ Β. ἐκ τούτων ἄρα δεῖξω ὅτι ἔστιν ἐκείνο. ἀντιστρέφει δὲ μᾶλλον τὰ

<sup>a</sup> For "objections" see *An. Pr.* 69 a 37 ff. There particular objections are admitted as logically possible; here they are excluded because we are dealing with scientific demonstration, in which any objection must be capable of serving as premiss in a fresh proof. The reading adopted here seems to be that of the commentators and gives a better sense than the vulgate.

<sup>b</sup> Sc. "as middles in the second figure," and undistributed middles at that. It is in fact a common type of paralogism. Aristotle goes on to show how the terms must be related to give a valid conclusion in the first figure. Caeneus may be the Lapith in Antiphanes' play of that name, but he may



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tion in which the <minor> premiss is inductive.<sup>a</sup> Just as a premiss which does not hold good of more than one case is no true premiss (because it will not hold good of all cases, and syllogism proceeds from universal judgements), so an objection of this nature is no true objection. Premisses and objections are the same, in that any objection which is brought may become a premiss, either demonstrative or dialectical. must not be inductive.

We find that some persons argue fallaciously through taking consequents of both terms<sup>b</sup>; as Caeneus does in maintaining that fire spreads in geometrical progression, on the ground that both fire and this kind of progression increase rapidly. But with these conditions there is no syllogism; only if the most rapid rate of increase implies geometrical proportion, and fire in its motion implies the most rapid rate of increase. Sometimes it is not possible to draw an inference from the assumptions; sometimes it is possible,<sup>c</sup> but the method of procedure is overlooked. Paralogism in the second figure.

If it were impossible to prove a true conclusion from false premisses,<sup>d</sup> analysis would be easy; because conclusion and premisses would necessarily reciprocate. Let A be a real fact, whose reality implies that of certain other facts, *e.g.*, B, which I know to be real; then from the latter I will prove the existence of A. Reciprocation is more usual in Error in the analysis of problems.

equally well have been a real person, though unknown to us.

<sup>c</sup> If the major premiss is convertible.

<sup>d</sup> But it is not: *An. Pr.* II. ii-iv. The analysis in question is the analysis of a problem, *i.e.* the discovery of the premisses necessary to prove a given conclusion. *Cf. Eth. Nic.* 1112 b 20 ff.

78 a

ἐν τοῖς μαθήμασιν, ὅτι οὐδὲν συμβεβηκὸς λαμβάνουσιν (ἀλλὰ καὶ τούτῳ διαφέρουσι τῶν ἐν τοῖς διαλόγοις) ἀλλ' ὀρισμούς.

Αὕξεται δ' οὐ διὰ τῶν μέσων, ἀλλὰ τῷ προσλαμ-  
 15 βάνειν, οἷον τὸ Α τοῦ Β, τοῦτο δὲ τοῦ Γ, πάλιν  
 τοῦτο τοῦ Δ, καὶ τοῦτ' εἰς ἄπειρον· καὶ εἰς τὸ  
 πλάγιον, οἷον τὸ Α καὶ κατὰ τοῦ Γ καὶ κατὰ τοῦ  
 Ε, οἷον ἔστιν ἀριθμὸς ποσὸς ἢ καὶ ἄπειρος τοῦτο  
 ἐφ' ᾧ Α, ὁ περιττὸς ἀριθμὸς ποσὸς ἐφ' οὗ Β,  
 ἀριθμὸς περιττὸς ἐφ' οὗ Γ· ἔστιν ἄρα τὸ Α κατὰ  
 20 τοῦ Γ. καὶ ἔστιν ὁ ἄρτιος ποσὸς ἀριθμὸς ἐφ' οὗ  
 Δ, ὁ ἄρτιος ἀριθμὸς ἐφ' οὗ Ε· ἔστιν ἄρα τὸ Α  
 κατὰ τοῦ Ε.

XIII. Τὸ δ' ὅτι διαφέρει καὶ τὸ διότι ἐπίστασθαι,  
 πρῶτον μὲν ἐν τῇ αὐτῇ ἐπιστήμῃ, καὶ ἐν ταύτῃ  
 διχῶς, ἓνα μὲν τρόπον ἔαν μὴ δι' ἀμέσων γίγνηται  
 25 ὁ συλλογισμὸς (οὐ γὰρ λαμβάνεται τὸ πρῶτον αἷτιον,  
 ἢ δὲ τοῦ διότι ἐπιστήμη κατὰ τὸ πρῶτον αἷτιον),  
 ἄλλον δὲ εἰ δι' ἀμέσων μὲν, ἀλλὰ μὴ διὰ τοῦ αἰτίου  
 ἀλλὰ τῶν ἀντιστρεφόντων διὰ τοῦ γνωριμωτέρου.  
 κωλύει γὰρ οὐδὲν τῶν ἀντικατηγορουμένων γνω-  
 ριμώτερον εἶναι ἐνίοτε τὸ μὴ αἷτιον, ὥστ' ἔσται διὰ  
 30 τούτου ἢ ἀπόδειξις, οἷον ὅτι ἐγγὺς οἱ πλάνητες διὰ  
 τοῦ μὴ στίλβειν. ἔστω ἐφ' ᾧ Γ πλάνητες, ἐφ' ᾧ Β  
 τὸ μὴ στίλβειν, ἐφ' ᾧ Α τὸ ἐγγὺς εἶναι. ἀληθὲς δὴ  
 τὸ Β κατὰ τοῦ Γ εἰπεῖν· οἱ γὰρ πλάνητες οὐ στίλ-  
 βουσιν. ἀλλὰ καὶ τὸ Α κατὰ τοῦ Β· τὸ γὰρ μὴ

<sup>a</sup> Cf. 77 b 27.

<sup>b</sup> Sc. lower than any which have hitherto been used. In this way the system can be extended downwards. The middle terms of the main system are already established; otherwise it would not be scientific. But it is also possible

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mathematical problems, because mathematics never assumes an accident but only definitions. This is another <sup>a</sup> respect in which mathematics differs from dialectical reasoning.

A science expands not by the interpolation of middle terms but by the addition of extreme terms <sup>b</sup>; Expansion of a science.  
*e.g.*, A is predicated of B, and the latter of C, and this again of D, and so *ad infinitum*. It may also be extended laterally; *e.g.*, A may be predicated of both C and E. For example, A is number (determinate or indeterminate), B is determinate odd number, C is a particular odd number; then A is predicable of C. Again, D is determinate even number, and E a particular even number; then A is predicable of E.

XIII. Knowledge of a fact and knowledge of the reason for it differ when both fall under the same science, under several conditions: (1) if the conclusion is not drawn from immediate premisses (for then the proximate cause is not contained in them, and knowledge of the reason depends upon the proximate cause); (2) if the premisses are immediate, but the conclusion is drawn not from the cause but from the more familiar of two convertible terms; for it may well be that of two reciprocally predicable terms that which is not the cause is sometimes the more familiar, so that the demonstration will proceed by it; *e.g.*, the proof that the planets are near because they do not twinkle. Let C stand for "planets," B for "not twinkling," and A for "being near." Then it is true to state B of C; because the planets do not twinkle. But it is also true to state A of B; because that which

Knowledge of a fact and knowledge of its reason may differ although both fall under one science.

to extend the system laterally at any stage, as in the example, by linking a fresh minor (E) to a given major (A) by a fresh middle (D).

78 a

35 στίλβον ἐγγύς ἐστι· τοῦτο δ' εἰλήφθω δι' ἐπαγωγῆς ἢ δι' αἰσθήσεως. ἀνάγκη οὖν τὸ Α τῷ Γ ὑπάρχειν, ὥστ' ἀποδέδεικται ὅτι οἱ πλάνητες ἐγγύς εἰσιν. οὗτος οὖν ὁ συλλογισμὸς οὐ τοῦ διότι ἀλλὰ τοῦ ὅτι ἐστίν· οὐ γὰρ διὰ τὸ μὴ στίλβειν ἐγγύς εἰσιν, ἀλλὰ διὰ τὸ ἐγγύς εἶναι οὐ στίλβουσιν. ἐγχωρεῖ δέ καὶ

40 διὰ θατέρου θάτερον δειχθῆναι, καὶ ἔσται τοῦ διότι

78 b ἡ ἀπόδειξις, οἷον ἔστω τὸ Γ πλάνητες, ἐφ' ᾧ Β τὸ ἐγγύς εἶναι, τὸ Α τὸ μὴ στίλβειν· ὑπάρχει δὴ καὶ τὸ Β τῷ Γ καὶ τὸ Α τῷ Β [τὸ μὴ στίλβειν],<sup>1</sup> ὥστε καὶ τῷ Γ τὸ Α. καὶ ἔστι τοῦ διότι ὁ συλλογισμὸς· εἰληπται γὰρ τὸ πρῶτον αἷτιον. πάλιν ὡς τὴν  
5 σελήνην δεικνύουσιν ὅτι σφαιροειδῆς, διὰ τῶν αὐξήσεων· εἰ γὰρ τὸ αὐξανόμενον οὕτω σφαιροειδές, αὐξάνει δ' ἡ σελήνη, φανερόν ὅτι σφαιροειδῆς· οὕτω μὲν οὖν τοῦ ὅτι γέγονεν ὁ συλλογισμὸς, ἀνάπαλιν δὲ τεθέντος τοῦ μέσου τοῦ διότι· οὐ γὰρ διὰ τὰς αὐξήσεις σφαιροειδῆς ἐστίν, ἀλλὰ διὰ τὸ σφαι-  
10 ροειδῆς εἶναι λαμβάνει τὰς αὐξήσεις τοιαύτας. σελήνη ἐφ' ᾧ Γ, σφαιροειδῆς ἐφ' ᾧ Β, αὐξήσεις ἐφ' ᾧ Α.

Ἐφ' ὧν δὲ τὰ μέσα μὴ ἀντιστρέφει καὶ ἔστι γνωριμώτερον τὸ ἀναίτιον, τὸ ὅτι μὲν δείκνυται, τὸ διότι δ' οὐ. ἔτι ἐφ' ὧν τὸ μέσον ἔξω τίθεται· καὶ γὰρ ἐν τούτοις τοῦ ὅτι καὶ οὐ τοῦ διότι ἡ ἀπόδειξις·  
15 οὐ γὰρ λέγεται τὸ αἷτιον. οἷον διὰ τί οὐκ ἀναπνεῖ

<sup>1</sup> secl. Ross.

<sup>a</sup> Sc. as middle.

<sup>b</sup> Sc. with the majors. This is a corollary to the foregoing case, the difference being that it is no longer possible to establish the reason by converting the major premiss.



does not twinkle is near (this may have been assumed either by induction or through sense-perception). Then A must apply to C ; and so it has been proved that the planets are near. Thus this syllogism proves not the reason but the fact ; for it is not because the planets do not twinkle that they are near, but because they are near that they do not twinkle. (It is possible, however, to prove the middle by means of the major term, and then the demonstration will establish the reason. *E.g.*, let C stand for “ planets,” B for “ being near ” and A for “ not twinkling.” Then B applies to C, and A—[“ not twinkling ”]—to B, and so A also applies to C ; and the syllogism establishes the reason, because the proximate cause has been assumed.<sup>a</sup>) Or again as the moon is proved to be spherical from its phases ; for if that which exhibits phases of this kind is spherical, and the moon exhibits phases, it is evident that the moon is spherical. In this form the syllogism proves the fact, but when the middle term is interchanged with the major, we can establish the reason ; for it is not on account of its phases that the moon is spherical, but because it is spherical that it exhibits phases of this kind. C stands for “ moon,” B for “ spherical ” and A for “ phase.”

(3) Where the middle terms are not convertible <sup>b</sup> and that which is not the cause is better known than the cause, the fact can be proved but the reason cannot. (4) This is true also of syllogisms whose middle term falls outside <sup>c</sup> ; in these too the demonstration establishes the fact and not the reason, since the cause is not stated. *E.g.*, why does the wall not

<sup>a</sup> In the second figure ; the third, giving no universal conclusion, is useless for demonstration.

78 b

ὁ τοῖχος; ὅτι οὐ ζῶον. εἰ γὰρ τοῦτο τοῦ μὴ  
 ἀναπνεῖν αἴτιον, ἔδει τὸ ζῶον εἶναι αἴτιον τοῦ ἀνα-  
 πνεῖν, οἷον εἰ ἡ ἀπόφασις αἰτία τοῦ μὴ ὑπάρχειν, ἡ  
 20 κατάφασις τοῦ ὑπάρχειν, ὥσπερ εἰ τὸ ἀσύμμετρα  
 εἶναι τὰ θερμὰ καὶ ψυχρὰ τοῦ μὴ ὑγιαίνειν, τὸ σύμ-  
 μετρα εἶναι τοῦ ὑγιαίνειν· ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ εἰ ἡ κατά-  
 φασις τοῦ ὑπάρχειν, ἡ ἀπόφασις τοῦ μὴ ὑπάρχειν.  
 ἐπὶ δὲ τῶν οὕτως ἀποδοδομένων οὐ συμβαίνει τὸ  
 λεχθέν· οὐ γὰρ ἅπαν ἀναπνεῖ ζῶον. ὁ δὲ συλλογισ-  
 μὸς γίγνεται τῆς τοιαύτης αἰτίας ἐν τῷ μέσῳ σχή-  
 25 ματι. οἷον ἔστω τὸ Α ζῶον, ἐφ' οὗ τὸ Β τὸ  
 ἀναπνεῖν, ἐφ' ᾧ Γ τοῖχος. τῷ μὲν οὖν Β παντὶ  
 ὑπάρχει τὸ Α (πάν γὰρ τὸ ἀναπνέον ζῶον), τῷ δὲ  
 Γ οὐθενί, ὥστε οὐδὲ τὸ Β τῷ Γ οὐθενί· οὐκ ἄρα  
 ἀναπνεῖ ὁ τοῖχος. εἰκότα δ' αἱ τοιαῦται τῶν  
 αἰτιῶν τοῖς καθ' ὑπερβολὴν εἰρημένοις· τοῦτο δ'  
 30 ἔστι τὸ πλεον ἀποστήσαντα τὸ μέσον εἰπεῖν, οἷον  
 τὸ τοῦ Ἀναχάρσιος, ὅτι ἐν Σκύθαις οὐκ εἰσὶν αὐλη-  
 τρίδες,<sup>1</sup> οὐδὲ γὰρ ἄμπελοι.

Κατὰ μὲν δὴ τὴν αὐτὴν ἐπιστήμην καὶ κατὰ τὴν  
 τῶν μέσων θέσιν αὐταὶ διαφοραὶ εἰσιν τοῦ ὅτι πρὸς  
 τὸν τοῦ διότι συλλογισμόν· ἄλλον δὲ τρόπον διαφέρει  
 35 τὸ διότι τοῦ ὅτι τῷ<sup>2</sup> δι' ἄλλης ἐπιστήμης ἐκάτερον  
 θεωρεῖν. τοιαῦτα δ' ἐστὶν ὅσα οὕτως ἔχει πρὸς

<sup>1</sup> αὐλητρίδες np, Philoponus, Themistius : αὐληταὶ ABCd.

<sup>2</sup> τῷ np : τὸ.

<sup>a</sup> But it is not ; see below.

<sup>b</sup> According to Aristotle only warm-blooded animals breathe (cf. *De Resp.* 478 a 28 ff.), so in the example "animal" is too wide a middle term.

breathe? Because it is not an animal. If this were the reason for its not breathing, "being an animal" ought to be the reason for breathing<sup>a</sup>; on the principle that if a negative statement gives the reason for an attribute's not applying, the corresponding affirmative statement will give the reason for its applying; *e.g.*, if the disproportion of the hot and cold elements in us is the cause of our not being healthy, their due proportion is the cause of our being healthy. Similarly too if the affirmative statement gives the reason for an attribute's applying, the negative statement will give the reason for its not applying. But in the given instance the conclusion does not follow; for not every animal breathes.<sup>b</sup> A syllogism which proves this sort of cause occurs in the middle figure. *E.g.*, let A stand for "animal," B for "respiration" and C for "wall." Then A applies to all B (for everything that breathes is an animal), but to no C, and so neither does B apply to any C. Hence the wall does not breathe. Such causes as these are like far-fetched explanations; I mean stating the middle term in too remote a form, *e.g.*, the dictum of Anacharsis that there are no flute-players among the Scythians because there are no vines.<sup>c</sup>

These, then, are the differences between the syllogism which proves the fact and that which proves the reason, within the same science and according to the position of the middle terms. But there is another way in which the fact and the reason differ, *viz.*, in each being studied by a different science. This is true of all subjects which are so related that one is

A fact and its reason may belong to different sciences.

<sup>c</sup> The full chain of implication is something like "flute-playing—thirsty work—heavy drinking—wine—grapes—vines." Anacharsis was a Scythian ethnologist of the sixth century B.C. (Herodotus iv. 76).

78 b

- ἄλληλα ὥστ' εἶναι θάτερον ὑπὸ θάτερον, οἷον τὰ  
 ὀπτικά πρὸς γεωμετρίαν καὶ τὰ μηχανικά πρὸς  
 στερεομετρίαν καὶ τὰ ἁρμονικά πρὸς ἀριθμητικὴν  
 καὶ τὰ φαινόμενα πρὸς ἀστρολογικὴν. σχεδὸν δὲ  
 40 συνώνυμοί εἰσιν εἶναι τούτων τῶν ἐπιστημῶν, οἷον  
 79 a ἀστρολογία ἢ τε μαθηματικὴ καὶ ἡ ναυτικὴ, καὶ  
 ἁρμονικὴ ἢ τε μαθηματικὴ καὶ ἡ κατὰ τὴν ἀκοήν.  
 ἐνταῦθα γὰρ τὸ μὲν ὅτι τῶν αἰσθητικῶν εἰδέναι, τὸ  
 δὲ διότι τῶν μαθηματικῶν οὗτοι γὰρ ἔχουσι τῶν  
 αἰτίων τὰς ἀποδείξεις, καὶ πολλάκις οὐκ ἴσασι τὸ  
 5 ὅτι, καθάπερ οἱ τὸ καθόλου θεωροῦντες πολλάκις  
 εἶναι τῶν καθ' ἕκαστον οὐκ ἴσασι δι' ἀνεπισκεψίαν.  
 ἔστι δὲ ταῦτα ὅσα ἑτερόν τι ὄντα τὴν οὐσίαν κέχρη-  
 ται τοῖς εἶδεσιν. τὰ γὰρ μαθήματα περὶ εἶδη ἐστίν·  
 οὐ γὰρ καθ' ὑποκειμένου τινός· εἰ γὰρ καὶ καθ'  
 ὑποκειμένου τινὸς τὰ γεωμετρικά ἐστιν, ἀλλ' οὐχ  
 10 ἢ γε καθ' ὑποκειμένου. ἔχει δὲ καὶ πρὸς τὴν  
 ὀπτικὴν, ὡς αὕτη πρὸς τὴν γεωμετρίαν, ἄλλη πρὸς  
 ταύτην, οἷον τὸ περὶ τῆς ἱριδος· τὸ μὲν γὰρ ὅτι  
 φυσικοῦ εἰδέναι, τὸ δὲ διότι ὀπτικοῦ, ἢ ἀπλῶς ἢ  
 τοῦ κατὰ τὸ μάθημα.· πολλὰ δὲ καὶ τῶν μὴ ὑπ'  
 ἀλλήλας ἐπιστημῶν ἔχουσιν οὕτως, οἷον ἰατρικὴ  
 15 πρὸς γεωμετρίαν· ὅτι μὲν γὰρ τὰ ἔλκη τὰ περιφερῆ  
 βραδύτερον ὑγιάζεται τοῦ ἰατροῦ εἰδέναι, διότι δὲ  
 τοῦ γεωμέτρου.

<sup>a</sup> i.e., studied by more than one science.

<sup>b</sup> Up to this point it might be supposed that Aristotle recognizes two "levels" of science, concerned respectively with form and with informed matter. It now appears that there are three "levels," the highest studying universals, the lowest particulars, and the other mediating between them.

<sup>c</sup> Philoponus offers two explanations: (1) because such



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subordinate to the other, as is the relation of optical problems to plane and of mechanical problems to solid geometry and of harmonical problems to arithmetic and of the study of phenomena to astronomy. Some of these sciences have practically the same name; *e.g.*, both mathematical and nautical astronomy are called astronomy, and both mathematical and acoustic harmonics are called harmonics. In these cases it is for the collectors of data to know the fact, and for the mathematicians to establish the reason. The latter can demonstrate the causes, whereas they are often ignorant of the fact; just as those who are studying the universal are often ignorant of some of the particular instances, through lack of thorough investigation. Of this kind <sup>a</sup> are all objects which, while having a separate substantial existence, yet exhibit certain specific forms. For the mathematical sciences are concerned with forms; they do not confine their demonstrations to a particular substrate. Even if geometrical problems refer to a particular substrate, they do so only incidentally. As optics is related to geometry, so is another science to optics, namely, the study of the rainbow.<sup>b</sup> To know the fact of the rainbow's existence is for the natural scientist; to know the reason is for the optician, either simply as such or as a mathematical optician. Many of the sciences which are not strictly subordinate stand in this relation; *e.g.*, medicine to geometry. It is for the doctor to know the fact that circular wounds heal more slowly, but it is for the geometrician to know the reason for the fact.<sup>c</sup>

wounds have the greatest area in relation to their perimeter, (2) because the healing surfaces are farther apart and nature has difficulty in joining them.

XIV. Τῶν δὲ σχημάτων ἐπιστημονικὸν μάλιστα τὸ πρῶτόν ἐστιν. αἱ τε γὰρ μαθηματικαὶ τῶν ἐπιστημῶν διὰ τούτου φέρουσι τὰς ἀποδείξεις, οἷον 20 ἀριθμητικὴ καὶ γεωμετρία καὶ ὀπτική, καὶ σχεδὸν ὥς εἰπεῖν ὅσαι τοῦ διότι ποιοῦνται τὴν σκέψιν· ἡ γὰρ ὅλως ἢ ὥς ἐπὶ τὸ πολὺ καὶ ἐν τοῖς πλείστοις διὰ τούτου τοῦ σχήματος ὁ τοῦ διότι συλλογισμός. ὥστε καὶ διὰ τοῦτ' εἴη μάλιστα ἐπιστημονικόν· κυριώτατον γὰρ τοῦ εἰδέναι τὸ διότι θεωρεῖν. εἴτα 25 τὴν τοῦ τί ἐστὶν ἐπιστήμην διὰ μόνου τούτου θηρεῦσαι δυνατόν. ἐν μὲν γὰρ τῷ μέσῳ σχήματι οὐ γίγνεται κατηγορικὸς συλλογισμός, ἡ δὲ τοῦ τί ἐστὶν ἐπιστήμη καταφάσεως· ἐν δὲ τῷ ἐσχάτῳ γίγνεται μὲν ἀλλ' οὐ καθόλου, τὸ δὲ τί ἐστὶ τῶν καθόλου ἐστίν· οὐ γὰρ πῇ ἐστὶ ζῶον δίπουν ὁ ἄν- 30 θρωπος. ἔτι τοῦτο μὲν ἐκείνων οὐδὲν προσδεῖται, ἐκεῖνα δὲ διὰ τούτου καταπυκνοῦνται καὶ αὔξεται, ἕως ἂν εἰς τὰ ἅμεσα ἔλθῃ. φανερόν οὖν ὅτι κυριώτατον τοῦ ἐπίστασθαι τὸ πρῶτον σχῆμα.

XV. Ὡς περ δὲ ὑπάρχειν τὸ A τῷ B ἐνεδέχεται ἀτόμως, οὕτω καὶ μὴ ὑπάρχειν ἐγχωρεῖ. λέγω δὲ 35 τὸ ἀτόμως ὑπάρχειν ἢ μὴ ὑπάρχειν τὸ μὴ εἶναι αὐτῶν μέσον· οὕτω γὰρ οὐκέτι ἔσται κατ' ἄλλο τὸ ὑπάρχειν ἢ μὴ ὑπάρχειν. ὅταν μὲν οὖν ἢ τὸ A ἢ τὸ B ἐν ὅλῳ τινὶ ᾗ, ἢ καὶ ἁμφῷ, οὐκ ἐνδέχεται τὸ

<sup>a</sup> *An. Pr.* I. v.

<sup>c</sup> *Cf. An. Pr.* 29 a 30 ff.

<sup>d</sup> 72 b 18-25.

<sup>e</sup> i.e., immediately.

<sup>f</sup> Aristotle means when (a) A belongs to a genus which excludes B, or (b) B belongs to a genus which excludes A, or (c) A and B belong to different genera. It is not clear whether he intends the fourth case—when A and B belong to the same

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XIV. The most scientific of the figures is the first. Not only do the mathematical sciences, such as arithmetic, geometry and optics, advance their demonstrations by means of this figure, but so, broadly speaking, do practically all sciences which investigate reasons; for it is by this figure, if not universally, at least as a general rule and in most cases, that the syllogism establishing the reason is effected. Hence on this account too the first figure may be regarded as the most scientific; for the most essential part of knowledge is the study of reasons. Further, by this figure alone is it possible to pursue knowledge of the essence; for in the middle figure we get no affirmative conclusion,<sup>a</sup> and the knowledge of a thing's essence must be affirmative; while in the last figure we get an affirmative conclusion, but it is not universal,<sup>b</sup> whereas the essence belongs to the category of universals; it is not in any particular sense that man is a two-footed animal. Finally the first figure is independent of the others, whereas they are supplemented and augmented by it until immediate premisses are obtained.<sup>c</sup> Thus it is evident that the first figure is most essential to knowledge.

The first figure is supreme for purposes of science.

XV. Just as A may (as we saw<sup>d</sup>) apply atomically<sup>e</sup> to B, so also it may not-apply atomically. By applying or not-applying atomically I mean that there is no middle term between them; for in this case the applying or not-applying will no longer depend upon some other term. (1) When either A or B or both are contained in some whole,<sup>f</sup> it is impossible that A genus—to be included in his formula, or whether he dismisses it as self-evident. He is probably thinking of A and B as species; and if they are different species of the same proximate genus their disconnexion can be proved through one or other of their differentiae.

Immediate negative propositions, impossible if either term is, or both terms are, contained in a genus,

79 a

Α τῷ Β πρώτως μὴ ὑπάρχειν. ἔστω γὰρ τὸ Α ἐν ὅλῳ τῷ Γ. οὐκοῦν εἰ τὸ Β μὴ ἔστιν ἐν ὅλῳ τῷ Γ  
 40 (ἐγχωρεῖ γὰρ τὸ μὲν Α εἶναι ἐν τινὶ ὅλῳ, τὸ δὲ Β μὴ εἶναι ἐν τούτῳ), συλλογισμὸς ἔσται τοῦ μὴ ὑπάρ-  
 79 b χεῖν τὸ Α τῷ Β· εἰ γὰρ τῷ μὲν Α παντὶ τὸ Γ τῷ δὲ Β μηδενί, οὐδενὶ τῷ Β τὸ Α. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ εἰ τὸ μὲν Β ἐν ὅλῳ τινὶ ἔστιν, οἷον ἐν τῷ Δ· τὸ μὲν γὰρ Δ παντὶ τῷ Β ὑπάρχει, τὸ δὲ Α οὐδενὶ τῷ<sup>1</sup> Δ, ὥστε τὸ Α οὐδενὶ τῷ Β ὑπάρξει διὰ συλλογισμοῦ.  
 5 τὸν αὐτὸν δὲ τρόπον δειχθήσεται καὶ εἰ ἄμφω ἐν ὅλῳ τινὶ ἔστιν.

Ὅτι δ' ἐνδέχεται τὸ Β μὴ εἶναι ἐν ᾧ ὅλῳ ἐστὶ τὸ Α, ἢ πάλιν τὸ Α ἐν ᾧ τὸ Β, φανερόν ἐκ τῶν συστοιχιῶν, ὅσαι μὴ ἐπαλλάττουσιν ἀλλήλαις. εἰ γὰρ μηδὲν τῶν ἐν τῇ ΑΓΔ συστοιχία κατὰ μη-  
 10 δενὸς κατηγορεῖται τῶν ἐν τῇ ΒΕΖ, τὸ δ' Α ἐν ὅλῳ ἐστὶ τῷ Θ συστοίχῳ ὄντι, φανερόν ὅτι τὸ Β οὐκ ἔσται ἐν τῷ Θ· ἐπαλλάξουσιν γὰρ αἱ συστοιχίαι. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ εἰ τὸ Β ἐν ὅλῳ τινὶ ἔστιν.

Ἐὰν δὲ μηδέτερον ἢ ἐν ὅλῳ μηδενί, μὴ ὑπάρχειν δὲ τὸ Α τῷ Β, ἀνάγκη ἀτόμως μὴ ὑπάρχειν. εἰ  
 15 γὰρ ἔσται τι μέσον, ἀνάγκη θάτερον αὐτῶν ἐν ὅλῳ τινὶ εἶναι· ἢ γὰρ ἐν τῷ πρώτῳ σχήματι ἢ ἐν τῷ μέσῳ ἔσται ὁ συλλογισμός. εἰ μὲν οὖν ἐν τῷ πρώτῳ, τὸ Β ἔσται ἐν ὅλῳ τινὶ (καταφατικὴν γὰρ δεῖ τὴν πρὸς τοῦτο γίνεσθαι πρότασιν), εἰ δ' ἐν τῷ μέσῳ, ὁπότερον ἔτυχεν· πρὸς ἀμφοτέροις γὰρ

<sup>1</sup> τῶν n, Bekker.<sup>a</sup> This again means "immediately."



should not-apply in the primary sense <sup>a</sup> to B. For let A be contained in the whole of C. Then if B is not contained in the whole of C (for it is possible for A to be contained in a whole although B is not also contained in it), there will be a syllogism proving that A does not apply to B.<sup>b</sup> For if C applies to all A but to no B, A will apply to no B. Similarly too if B is contained in some whole, *e.g.*, D; for D applies to all B, and A to no D,<sup>c</sup> so that by syllogism A will apply to no B. The proof will take the same form also if both terms are contained in some whole.

That B may not be contained in the whole which contains A, and *vice versa*, will be evident from the consideration of series <sup>d</sup> of mutually exclusive predicates. For if none of the terms in the series ACD is predicable of any of the terms in the series BEF, and A is wholly contained in H, a term in the former series, obviously B will not be contained in H; for then the series would not be mutually exclusive. Similarly too if B is wholly contained in some other term.

On the other hand if neither is wholly contained in any term, and A does not apply to B, it must not-apply atomically. For if there is to be a middle term, one of the terms A and B must be wholly contained in some genus. The syllogism will occur either in the first or in the middle figure. If it occurs in the first, it will be B that is wholly contained in some genus (for the premiss relating to B must be affirmative); if in the middle figure, it will be either A or B indifferently, since we get a syllogism when the negative statement

are possible  
if neither  
term is so  
contained.

<sup>b</sup> So the relation of A to B is not atomic.

<sup>c</sup> By conversion.

<sup>d</sup> Consisting of genera with their species and sub-species.

79 b

20 ληφθέντος τοῦ στερητικοῦ γίνεται συλλογισμός· ἀμφοτέρων δ' ἀποφατικῶν οὐσῶν οὐκ ἔσται.

Φανερόν οὖν ὅτι ἐνδέχεται τε ἄλλο<sup>1</sup> ἄλλω μὴ ὑπάρχειν ἀτόμως, καὶ πότ' ἐνδέχεται καὶ πῶς εἰρήκαμεν.

XVI. Ἄγνοια δ' ἢ μὴ κατ' ἀπόφασιν ἀλλὰ κατὰ διάθεσιν λεγομένη ἔστι μὲν ἢ διὰ συλλογισμοῦ γιγ-  
 25 νομένη ἀπάτη, αὕτη δ' ἐν μὲν τοῖς πρώτως ὑπάρ-  
 χουσιν ἢ μὴ ὑπάρχουσι συμβαίνει διχῶς· ἢ γὰρ ὅταν ἀπλῶς ὑπολάβῃ ὑπάρχειν ἢ μὴ ὑπάρχειν, ἢ ὅταν διὰ συλλογισμοῦ λάβῃ τὴν ὑπόληψιν. τῆς μὲν οὖν ἀπλῆς ὑπολήψεως ἀπλῇ ἢ ἀπάτῃ, τῆς δὲ διὰ συλλογισμοῦ πλείους. μὴ ὑπαρχέτω γὰρ τὸ Α μῆ-  
 30 δενὶ τῷ<sup>2</sup> Β ἀτόμως· οὐκοῦν ἐὰν συλλογίζηται ὑπάρ-  
 χειν τὸ Α τῷ Β, μέσον λαβὼν τὸ Γ, ἡπατημένος ἔσται διὰ συλλογισμοῦ. ἐνδέχεται μὲν οὖν ἀμφο-  
 τέρας τὰς προτάσεις εἶναι ψευδεῖς, ἐνδέχεται δὲ τὴν ἑτέραν μόνον. εἰ γὰρ μήτε τὸ Α μῆδενὶ τῶν Γ  
 35 ὑπάρχει μήτε τὸ Γ μῆδενὶ τῶν Β, εἴληπται δ' ἑκατέρα ἀνάπαλιν, ἄμφω ψευδεῖς ἔσονται. ἐγχωρεῖ δ' οὕτως ἔχειν τὸ Γ πρὸς τὸ Α καὶ Β ὥστε μήτε ὑπὸ τὸ Α εἶναι μήτε καθόλου τῷ Β. τὸ μὲν γὰρ Β ἀδύνατον εἶναι ἐν ὅλῳ τινί (πρώτως γὰρ ἐλέγετο αὐτῷ τὸ Α μὴ ὑπάρχειν), τὸ δὲ Α οὐκ ἀνάγκη πᾶσι  
 40 τοῖς οὖσιν εἶναι καθόλου, ὥστ' ἀμφοτέραι ψευδεῖς. ἀλλὰ καὶ τὴν ἑτέραν ἐνδέχεται ἀληθῇ λαμβάνειν, οὐ  
 80 α μέντοι ὅποτέραν ἔτυχεν, ἀλλὰ τὴν ΑΓ· ἢ γὰρ ΓΒ πρότασις αἰεὶ ψευδὴς ἔσται διὰ τὸ ἐν μῆδενὶ εἶναι τὸ Β, τὴν δὲ ΑΓ ἐγχωρεῖ, οἷον εἰ τὸ Α καὶ τῷ Γ

<sup>1</sup> om. Bekker.<sup>2</sup> τῶν ABCd, Bekker.

is assumed in connexion with either of them, but when both are negative there will be no syllogism.

Thus it is evident that one term may not-apply atomically to another ; and we have explained when and how this is possible.

XVI. Ignorance, considered not in a negative sense but as a positive disposition of mind, is error reached through inference.<sup>a</sup> In propositions stating an immediate positive or negative relation it arises in two ways : (a) when we directly suppose<sup>b</sup> that one term applies or does not apply to another, and (b) when we reach this supposition by inference. The error arising from direct supposition is simple, but that which is based on inference takes more than one form. Let A apply atomically to no B. Then if we infer, taking C as the middle, that A applies to B, our error will be based on inference. It is possible either for both premisses or for one only to be false. (i) For if A applies to no C and C to no B, and we have assumed the contrary in each case, both premisses will be false (it is possible for C to be so related to A and B that it neither falls under A nor applies universally to B. For B cannot be wholly contained in a genus, since we stated above<sup>c</sup> that A is directly inapplicable to it ; and A need not necessarily apply universally to everything : hence both premisses are false.) (ii) It is also possible to assume one true premiss : not either premiss indifferently, but AC (the premiss CB will always be false, because B is contained in no genus ; but AC may be true) ; *e.g.*, if A applies

Error in respect of terms immediately related.

(1) Negative relation.

(i) Both premisses false.

(ii) Major true, minor false.

<sup>a</sup> This is a hasty statement, and Aristotle proceeds at once to correct it ; but since the direct misapprehension described under (a) does not admit logical analysis he says no more about it and confines his attention to (b).

<sup>b</sup> *Sc.* wrongly.

<sup>c</sup> b 29.

80 a

καὶ τῷ B ὑπάρχει ἀτόμως. ὅταν γὰρ πρώτως  
κατηγορηται ταὐτὸ πλειόνων οὐδέτερον ἐν<sup>1</sup> οὐδε-  
5 τέρῳ ἔσται. διαφέρει δ' οὐδέν, οὐδ' εἰ μὴ ἀτόμως  
ὑπάρχει.

Ἡ μὲν οὖν τοῦ ὑπάρχειν ἀπάτη διὰ τούτων τε  
καὶ οὕτω γίγνεται μόνως (οὐ γὰρ ἦν ἐν ἄλλῳ σχή-  
ματι τοῦ ὑπάρχειν συλλογισμός), ἡ δὲ τοῦ μὴ ὑπάρ-  
χειν ἐν τε τῷ πρώτῳ καὶ ἐν τῷ μέσῳ σχήματι.  
10 πρῶτον οὖν εἴπωμεν ποσαχῶς ἐν τῷ πρώτῳ γιγ-  
νεται, καὶ πῶς ἐχουσῶν τῶν προτάσεων.

Ἐνδέχεται μὲν οὖν ἀμφοτέρων ψευδῶν οὐσῶν,  
οἷον εἰ τὸ A καὶ τῷ Γ καὶ τῷ B ὑπάρχει ἀτόμως·  
ἐὰν γὰρ ληφθῇ τὸ μὲν A τῷ Γ μηδενί, τὸ δὲ Γ  
παντὶ τῷ B, ψευδεῖς αἱ προτάσεις. ἐνδέχεται δὲ  
15 καὶ τῆς ἐτέρας ψευδοῦς οὐσης, καὶ ταύτης ὅποτέρας  
ἔτυχεν. ἐγχωρεῖ γὰρ τὴν μὲν ΑΓ ἀληθῆ εἶναι, τὴν  
δὲ ΓΒ ψευδῇ, τὴν μὲν ΑΓ ἀληθῆ, ὅτι οὐ πᾶσι  
τοῖς οὖσιν ὑπάρχει τὸ A, τὴν δὲ ΓΒ ψευδῇ ὅτι  
ἀδύνατον ὑπάρχειν<sup>2</sup> τῷ B τὸ Γ, ὥ μὴδενὶ ὑπάρχει  
τὸ A· οὐ γὰρ ἔτι ἀληθὴς ἔσται ἡ ΑΓ πρότασις·  
20 ἅμα δέ, εἰ καὶ εἰσιν ἀμφότεραι ἀληθεῖς, καὶ τὸ συμ-  
πέρασμα ἔσται ἀληθές. ἀλλὰ καὶ τὴν ΓΒ ἐνδέ-  
χεται ἀληθῆ εἶναι τῆς ἐτέρας οὐσης ψευδοῦς, οἷον  
εἰ τὸ B καὶ ἐν τῷ Γ καὶ ἐν τῷ A ἐστίν· ἀνάγκη  
γὰρ θάτερον ὑπὸ θάτερον εἶναι, ὥστ' ἂν λάβῃ τὸ A  
μηδενὶ τῷ Γ ὑπάρχειν, ψευδὴς ἔσται ἡ πρότασις.  
25 φανερόν οὖν ὅτι καὶ τῆς ἐτέρας ψευδοῦς οὐσης καὶ  
ἀμφοῖν ἔσται ψευδὴς ὁ συλλογισμός.

<sup>1</sup> ἐν om. ABCd, Bekker.

<sup>2</sup> ὑπάρχει Bekker.



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atomically both to C and to B ; for when the same term is immediately predicated of more than one subject, neither of these latter terms will apply to the other. It makes no difference to the result if the relation <of A to C> is not atomic.

Thus erroneous affirmative attribution arises only from these causes and in these conditions (for we have seen <sup>a</sup> that a syllogism proving the <universal> affirmative relation occurs in no other figure); but erroneous negative attribution occurs in the second figure as well as in the first. Let us first state in how many forms it occurs in the first figure and how the premisses are related.

Error is possible (i) when both premisses are false, *e.g.*, if A applies immediately to both C and B ; for if A is assumed to apply to no C, and C to all B, the premisses will be false. (ii) It is possible when either premiss indifferently is false. For AC may be true and CB false : AC true because A does not apply to all things, and CB false because C cannot apply to B when A applies to no C ; for the premiss AC will no longer be true, and moreover, if both premisses are true, the conclusion will also be true. Again, CB may be true, the other premiss being false ; *e.g.*, if B is contained in both C and A. For one of these terms must be subordinate to the other <sup>b</sup> ; so that if we assume that A applies to no C, the premiss will be false. Thus it is evident that the syllogism will be false whether only one of the premisses is false or both are false.

<sup>a</sup> *An. Pr.* I. v-vi.

<sup>b</sup> A to C ; in the other case A would apply to all C, and therefore by inference to B, whereas it applies immediately to B. In fact, as Ross points out, A and C might be co-ordinate and overlapping.

(2) Affirmative relation.

A. Syllogism in first figure.

(i) Both premisses false.

(ii) One premiss false.

80 a

Ἐν δὲ τῷ μέσῳ σχήματι ὅλας μὲν εἶναι τὰς προ-  
τάσεις ἀμφοτέρας ψευδεῖς οὐκ ἐνδέχεται (ὅταν γὰρ  
τὸ Α παντὶ τῷ Β ὑπάρχῃ, οὐδὲν ἔσται λαβεῖν ὃ τῷ  
30 μὲν ἑτέρῳ παντὶ θατέρῳ δ' οὐδενὶ ὑπάρξει, δεῖ δ'  
οὕτω λαμβάνειν τὰς προτάσεις ὥστε τῷ μὲν ὑπάρ-  
χειν τῷ δὲ μὴ ὑπάρχειν, εἴπερ ἔσται συλλογισμός·  
εἰ οὖν οὕτω λαμβανόμεναι ψευδεῖς, δηλὸν ὡς ἐναν-  
τίως ἀνάπαλιν ἔξουσιν· τοῦτο δ' ἀδύνατον), ἐπὶ τι δ'  
ἐκατέραν οὐδὲν κωλύει ψευδῇ εἶναι, οἷον εἰ τὸ Γ  
35 καὶ τῷ Α καὶ τῷ Β τινὶ ὑπάρχοι· ἂν γὰρ τῷ μὲν Α  
παντὶ ληφθῇ ὑπάρχον τῷ δὲ Β μηδενί, ψευδεῖς μὲν  
ἀμφοτέραι αἱ προτάσεις, οὐ μέντοι ὅλαι ἀλλ' ἐπὶ τι.  
καὶ ἀνάπαλιν δὲ τεθέντος τοῦ στερητικοῦ ὡσαύτως.  
τὴν δ' ἑτέραν εἶναι ψευδῇ καὶ ὅποτερανοῦν ἐν-  
40 δέχεται. ὃ γὰρ ὑπάρχει τῷ Α παντί, καὶ τῷ Β  
80 b ὑπάρξει· ἐὰν οὖν ληφθῇ τῷ μὲν Α ὅλῳ ὑπάρχειν τὸ  
Γ τῷ δὲ Β ὅλῳ μὴ ὑπάρχειν, ἢ μὲν ΓΑ ἀληθὴς  
ἔσται, ἢ δὲ ΓΒ ψευδής. πάλιν ὃ τῷ Β μηδενὶ  
ὑπάρχει οὐδὲ τῷ Α παντὶ ὑπάρξει· εἰ γὰρ τῷ Α,  
καὶ τῷ Β· ἀλλ' οὐχ ὑπῆρχεν. ἐὰν οὖν ληφθῇ τὸ Γ  
5 τῷ μὲν Α ὅλῳ ὑπάρχειν τῷ δὲ Β μηδενί, ἢ μὲν ΓΒ  
πρότασις ἀληθής, ἢ δ' ἑτέρα ψευδής. ὁμοίως δὲ  
καὶ μετατεθέντος τοῦ στερητικοῦ. ὃ γὰρ μηδενὶ  
ὑπάρχει τῷ Α, οὐδὲ τῷ Β οὐδενὶ ὑπάρξει· ἐὰν οὖν  
ληφθῇ τὸ Γ τῷ μὲν Α ὅλῳ μὴ ὑπάρχειν τῷ δὲ Β  
ὅλῳ ὑπάρχειν, ἢ μὲν ΑΓ πρότασις ἀληθής ἔσται,  
10 ἢ ἑτέρα δὲ ψευδής. καὶ πάλιν, ὃ παντὶ τῷ Β  
ὑπάρχει, μηδενὶ λαβεῖν τῷ Α ὑπάρχον ψεῦδος. ἀν-  
ἀγκη γάρ, εἰ τῷ Β παντί, καὶ τῷ Α τινὶ ὑπάρχειν·

<sup>a</sup> For a valid syllogism the premisses must be either AaC,

In the middle figure (i) it is impossible for both premisses to be wholly false ; for when A applies to all B we shall not be able to find any term which will apply to all of the one and to none of the other, yet we must assume the premisses in such a way that the middle applies to one but not the other extreme term, if there is to be a syllogism. If, then, the premisses so assumed are false, clearly if their contraries are assumed the converse result should follow ; but this is impossible.<sup>a</sup> But (ii) there is no reason why both premisses should not be partly false ; *e.g.*, supposing that C should apply to some of both A and B ; for if it is assumed to apply to all A and to no B, both premisses will be false : not wholly, however, but partly. So too if the negative is posited in the other premiss. (iii) Either premiss singly may be (wholly) false. For that which applies to all A will also apply to B ; then if C is assumed to apply to the whole of A but to be inapplicable to the whole of B, CA will be true, and CB false. Again, that which applies to no B will not apply to all A ; for if it applies to A it will apply to B, which *ex hypothesi* it does not. Then if C is assumed to apply to the whole of A but to none of B, the premiss CB will be true, and the other will be false. Similarly too when the negative premiss is transposed ; for that which applies to no A will not apply to any B. Thus if C is assumed to be inapplicable to the whole of A, but to apply to the whole of B, the premiss AC will be true, and the other false. Again, it is false to assume that that which applies to all B applies to no A ; for if it applies to all B it must also apply to some

B. Syllogism in second figure.

(i) Both premisses cannot be wholly false,

(ii) but may be partly false,

(iii) and one may be wholly false.

BeC or Aec, BaC ; and if both premisses are wholly false, either BeC, BaC or AaC, BeC must be true ; but neither pair is compatible with BaA.

80 b

ἐὰν οὖν ληφθῇ τῷ μὲν Β παντὶ ὑπάρχειν τὸ Γ τῷ δὲ Α μηδενί, ἢ μὲν ΓΒ ἀληθὴς ἔσται, ἢ δὲ ΓΑ ψευδής.

- 15 Φανερόν οὖν ὅτι καὶ ἀμφοτέρων οὐσῶν ψευδῶν καὶ τῆς ἐτέρας μόνον ἔσται συλλογισμὸς ἀπατητικὸς ἐν τοῖς ἀτόμοις.

XVII. Ἐν δὲ τοῖς μὴ ἀτόμως ὑπάρχουσιν ἢ μὴ ὑπάρχουσιν,<sup>1</sup> ὅταν μὲν διὰ τοῦ οἰκείου μέσου γίγνηται τοῦ ψεύδους ὁ συλλογισμὸς, οὐχ οἷόν τε ἀμφο-  
 20 τέρας ψευδεῖς εἶναι τὰς προτάσεις, ἀλλὰ μόνον τὴν πρὸς τῷ μείζονι ἄκρῳ. (λέγω δ' οἰκεῖον μέσον δι' οὗ γίγνεται τῆς ἀντιφάσεως ὁ συλλογισμὸς.) ὑπαρχέτω γὰρ τὸ Α τῷ Β διὰ μέσου τοῦ Γ. ἐπεὶ οὖν ἀνάγκη τὴν ΓΒ καταφατικὴν λαμβάνεσθαι συλλογισμοῦ γιγνομένου, δῆλον ὅτι αἰεὶ αὕτη ἔσται ἀλη-  
 25 θής· οὐ γὰρ ἀντιστρέφεται. ἢ δὲ ΑΓ ψευδής· ταύτης γὰρ ἀντιστρεφομένης ἐναντίος γίγνεται ὁ συλλογισμὸς. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ εἰ ἐξ ἄλλης συστοιχίας ληφθεῖη τὸ μέσον, οἷον τὸ Δ εἰ καὶ ἐν τῷ Α ὅλῳ ἔστι καὶ κατὰ τοῦ Β κατηγορεῖται παντός· ἀνάγκη  
 30 γὰρ τὴν μὲν ΔΒ πρότασιν μένειν, τὴν δ' ἐτέραν ἀντιστρέφεσθαι, ὥσθ' ἢ μὲν αἰεὶ ἀληθής, ἢ δ' αἰεὶ ψευδής. καὶ σχεδὸν ἢ γε τοιαύτη ἀπάτη ἢ αὐτὴ ἔστι τῇ διὰ τοῦ οἰκείου μέσου. ἐὰν δὲ μὴ διὰ τοῦ οἰκείου μέσου γίγνηται ὁ συλλογισμὸς, ὅταν μὲν ὑπὸ τὸ Α ἢ τὸ μέσον τῷ δὲ Β μηδενὶ ὑπάρχῃ, ἀνάγκη  
 35 ψευδεῖς εἶναι ἀμφοτέρας. ληπτέαι γὰρ ἐναντίως ἢ ὥς ἔχουσιν αἱ προτάσεις, εἰ μέλλει συλλογισμὸς ἔσεσθαι· οὕτω δὲ λαμβανομένων ἀμφοτέραι γίγ-

<sup>1</sup> ἢ μὴ ὑπάρχουσιν om. ABn.



## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, I. XVI–XVII

A. Thus if C is assumed to apply to all B but to no A, CB will be true and CA false.

Thus it is evident that in atomic propositions erroneous inference will be possible when both premisses are false and when only one is false.

XVII. In non-atomic attribution, whether affirmative or negative,<sup>a</sup> when the false conclusion is reached by means of the proper middle term, it is not possible for both premisses to be false, but only for the major premiss. (By “proper” middle I mean that by which the contradictory<sup>b</sup> conclusion is reached.) Let A apply to B through C as middle term. Then since the premiss BC must be assumed as affirmative to produce a syllogism, clearly it must always be true; for it is not converted.<sup>c</sup> But AC is false; for it is upon the conversion of this that the contrary conclusion results. Similarly too supposing that the middle term should be taken from another series of predicates<sup>d</sup>; e.g., if D is both wholly contained in A and also predicated of all B; for the premiss DB must remain unchanged while the other is converted, so that the former is always true and the latter always false. Error of this kind is practically the same as that which is inferred by the proper middle. If, however, the syllogism is not effected by means of the proper middle, when the middle is subordinate to A but applies to no B, both premisses must be false; for the premisses must be assumed in the contrary sense if there is to be a syllogism, and when they are

Error in respect of terms mediately related.

(1) Affirmative relation.

A. First figure.  
(i) Inference by the proper middle.

(ii) Inference by a middle not proper but valid.

(iii) Inference by an improper middle.

<sup>a</sup> The latter is first considered at 81 a 15.

<sup>b</sup> i.e. the true conclusion.

<sup>c</sup> i.e. changed in quality. Throughout this section ἀντιστρέφειν refers to qualitative change, not interchange of subject and predicate. Cf. *An. Pr.* 45 b 6, and II. viii-x.

<sup>d</sup> Non-essential attributes.

80 b

- νονται ψευδεῖς. οἷον εἰ τὸ μὲν Α ὅλω τῷ Δ ὑπάρχει τὸ δὲ Δ μηδενὶ τῶν Β· ἀντιστραφέντων γὰρ τούτων συλλογισμὸς τ' ἔσται καὶ αἱ προτάσεις ἀμ-  
 40 φότεραι ψευδεῖς. ὅταν δὲ μὴ ᾖ ὑπὸ τὸ Α τὸ μέσον,  
 81 a οἷον τὸ Δ, ἢ μὲν ΑΔ ἀληθὴς ἔσται, ἢ δὲ ΔΒ ψευδής. ἢ μὲν γὰρ ΑΔ ἀληθής, ὅτι οὐκ ἦν ἐν τῷ Α τὸ Δ, ἢ δὲ ΔΒ ψευδής, ὅτι εἰ ἦν ἀληθής, καὶ τὸ συμπέρασμα ἦν ἀληθές· ἀλλ' ἦν ψεῦδος.
- 5 Διὰ δὲ τοῦ μέσου σχήματος γιγνομένης τῆς ἀπάτης, ἀμφοτέρας μὲν οὐκ ἐνδέχεται ψευδεῖς εἶναι τὰς προτάσεις ὅλας (ὅταν γὰρ ᾖ τὸ Β ὑπὸ τὸ Α, οὐδὲν ἐνδέχεται τῷ μὲν παντὶ τῷ δὲ μηδενὶ ὑπάρχειν, καθάπερ ἐλέχθη καὶ πρότερον), τὴν ἑτέραν δ'  
 10 ἐγχωρεῖ, καὶ ὁποτέραν ἔτυχεν. εἰ γὰρ τὸ Γ καὶ τῷ Α καὶ τῷ Β ὑπάρχει, ἐὰν ληφθῇ τῷ μὲν Α ὑπάρχειν τῷ δὲ Β μὴ ὑπάρχειν, ἢ μὲν ΓΑ<sup>1</sup> ἀληθὴς ἔσται, ἢ δ' ἑτέρα ψευδής. πάλιν δ' εἰ τῷ μὲν Β ληφθεῖν τὸ Γ ὑπάρχον τῷ δὲ Α μηδενί, ἢ μὲν ΓΒ ἀληθὴς ἔσται, ἢ δ' ἑτέρα ψευδής.
- 15 Ἐὰν μὲν οὖν στερητικὸς ᾖ τῆς ἀπάτης ὁ συλλογισμὸς, εἴρηται πότε καὶ διὰ τίνων ἔσται ἡ ἀπάτη· ἐὰν δὲ καταφατικός, ὅταν μὲν διὰ τοῦ οἰκείου μέσου, ἀδύνατον ἀμφοτέρας εἶναι ψευδεῖς· ἀνάγκη γὰρ τὴν ΓΒ μένειν, εἴπερ ἔσται συλλογισμὸς,  
 20 καθάπερ ἐλέχθη καὶ πρότερον· ὥστε ἡ ΑΓ<sup>2</sup> ἀεὶ ἔσται ψευδής, αὕτη γάρ ἐστίν ἡ ἀντιστρεφόμενη. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ εἰ ἐξ ἄλλης συστοιχίας λαμβάνοιτο τὸ μέσον, ὥσπερ ἐλέχθη καὶ ἐπὶ τῆς στερητικῆς ἀπάτης· ἀνάγκη γὰρ τὴν μὲν ΔΒ μένειν τὴν δ'

<sup>1</sup> ΓΑ Mure, Ross : ΑΓ.<sup>2</sup> ΑΓ Mure, Ross : ΓΑ.

so assumed, both become false : *e.g.*, if A applies to the whole of D, and D applies to no B ; for when these propositions are converted, there will be a syllogism and both premisses will be false. But when the middle term, *e.g.* D, is not subordinate to A, the premiss AD will be true and DB false. AD will be true because D was not contained in A ; DB will be false because if it had been true, the conclusion would have been true too ; whereas it is *ex hypothesi* false.

When the error arises in the middle figure, it is impossible that both premisses should be wholly false (for when B is subordinate to A, nothing can apply to all of the one and to none of the other, as we observed above <sup>a</sup>), but one premiss, and that either one indifferently, may be false. For when C applies to both A and B, if it is assumed to apply to A but not to B, the premiss CA will be true, but the other will be false. Again, supposing that C is assumed as applying to B, but to no A, CB will be true but the other will be false.

B. Second figure. Either premiss may be false, but both cannot be wholly false.

Thus we have stated when and from what sort of premisses the error will arise if the erroneous conclusion is negative. If it is affirmative, when (i) it is reached through the proper middle term, it is impossible that both premisses should be false ; for the premiss CB must remain unchanged, if there is to be a syllogism, as we observed above.<sup>b</sup> Hence AC will always be false ; for this is the premiss whose quality is converted. Similarly too (ii) supposing that the middle term is taken from another predicate-series, as we observed with reference to negative error <sup>c</sup> ; for DB must remain unchanged, and AD must be

(2) Negative relation. (First figure.) (i) Inference by the proper middle.

(ii) Inference by a middle not proper but valid.

<sup>a</sup> 80 a 29. <sup>b</sup> 80 b 23. <sup>c</sup> 80 b 26.

81 a

ΑΔ ἀντιστρέφεισθαι, καὶ ἡ ἀπάτη ἡ αὐτὴ τῇ πρό-  
 25 τερον. ὅταν δὲ μὴ διὰ τοῦ οἰκείου, εἰ μὲν ἡ τὸ  
 Δ ὑπὸ τὸ Α, αὕτη μὲν ἔσται ἀληθής, ἡ ἑτέρα δὲ  
 ψευδής· ἐγχωρεῖ γὰρ τὸ Α πλείοσιν ὑπάρχειν ἢ  
 οὐκ ἔστιν ὑπ' ἄλληλα. εἰ μὲν δὲ μὴ ἡ τὸ Δ ὑπὸ τὸ Α,  
 αὕτη μὲν αἰεὶ δῆλον ὅτι ἔσται ψευδής (καταφατική  
 γὰρ λαμβάνεται), τὴν δὲ ΔΒ<sup>1</sup> ἐνδέχεται καὶ ἀληθῆ  
 30 εἶναι καὶ ψευδῆ· οὐδὲν γὰρ κωλύει τὸ μὲν Α τῷ Δ  
 μηδενὶ ὑπάρχειν τὸ δὲ Δ τῷ Β παντί, οἷον ζῶον  
 ἐπιστήμη, ἐπιστήμη δὲ μουσικῇ. οὐδ' αὖ μήτε τὸ  
 Α μηδενὶ τῶν Δ μήτε τὸ Δ μηδενὶ τῶν<sup>2</sup> Β. [φανερ-  
 ρὸν οὖν ὅτι μὴ ὄντος τοῦ μέσου ὑπὸ τὸ Α καὶ  
 ἀμφοτέρας ἐγχωρεῖ ψευδεῖς εἶναι καὶ ὁποτέραν  
 ἔτυχεν.]<sup>3</sup>

35 Ποσαχῶς μὲν οὖν καὶ διὰ τίνων ἐγχωρεῖ γίγνε-  
 σθαι τὰς κατὰ συλλογισμὸν ἀπάτας ἐν τε τοῖς  
 ἀμέσοις καὶ ἐν τοῖς δι' ἀποδείξεως, φανερόν.

XVIII. Φανερόν δὲ καὶ ὅτι, εἴ τις αἰσθησις ἐκ-  
 λέλοιπεν, ἀνάγκη καὶ ἐπιστήμην τινὰ ἐκλελοιπέναι,  
 40 ἣν ἀδύνατον λαβεῖν, εἴπερ μανθάνομεν ἢ ἐπαγωγῇ  
 81 b ἢ ἀποδείξει, ἔστι δ' ἡ μὲν ἀπόδειξις ἐκ τῶν καθόλου  
 ἢ δ' ἐπαγωγὴ ἐκ τῶν κατὰ μέρος, ἀδύνατον δὲ τὰ  
 καθόλου θεωρῆσαι μὴ δι' ἐπαγωγῆς (ἐπεὶ καὶ τὰ ἐξ  
 ἀφαιρέσεως λεγόμενα ἔσται δι' ἐπαγωγῆς γνώριμα  
 ποιεῖν, ὅτι ὑπάρχει ἐκάστῳ γένει ἓν, καὶ εἰ μὴ

<sup>1</sup> ΒΔ Bekker.<sup>2</sup> τῷ ΑΒ, Bekker.<sup>3</sup> φανερόν . . . ἔτυχεν secl. Ross.

<sup>a</sup> Ross points out that this case (in which if the false premiss is corrected a valid though unscientific syllogism is obtained) does not belong under (iii) but is identical with that already mentioned under (ii).



## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, I. xvii-xviii

converted in quality, and the error is the same as before. But when (iii) the conclusion is not reached through the proper middle term, if D is subordinate to A, this premiss will be true, and the other false, since A may apply to two or more terms which are not subordinate to one another; but if D is not subordinate to A, clearly this premiss will always be false (since it is assumed as affirmative), whereas DB may be true <sup>a</sup> or false; for there is no reason why A should not apply to no D, and D to all B (as *e.g.*, "animal" applies to no "science," but "science" to all "music"), nor why A should not apply to no D and D to no B. [Thus it is evident that when the middle term is not subordinate to A not only both premisses but either indifferently may be false.] <sup>b</sup>

(iii) Inference by an improper middle.

Thus it is evident in how many ways and by what sort of premisses syllogistic error may occur both in immediate attribution and in demonstrative attribution.

XVIII. It is evident also that if any sense-faculty has been lost, some knowledge must be irrevocably lost with it; since we learn either by induction or by demonstration. Now demonstration proceeds from universals and induction from particulars; but it is impossible to gain a view of universals except through induction (since even what we call abstractions <sup>c</sup> can only be grasped by induction, because, although they cannot exist in separation, some of them inhere in each class of objects, in so far as each class has

Lack of a sense-faculty as a cause of ignorance.

<sup>b</sup> This sentence is unlikely to be Aristotelian (since if D is not subordinate to A the major premiss must be false) and Philoponus ignores it. It is probably a rash observation by an early "editor."

<sup>c</sup> τὰ ἐξ ἀφαιρέσεως generally means "mathematical abstractions," *e.g.*, continuity or dimension (*cf. Met.* 1061 a 28); possibly here the sense is wider.

81 b

5 χωριστά ἐστίν, ἢ τοιονδὶ ἕκαστον), ἐπαχθῆναι δὲ μὴ ἔχοντας αἰσθησιν ἀδύνατον. τῶν γὰρ καθ' ἕκαστον ἡ αἰσθησις· οὐ γὰρ ἐνδέχεται λαβεῖν αὐτῶν τὴν ἐπιστήμην· οὔτε γὰρ ἐκ τῶν καθόλου ἄνευ ἐπαγωγῆς, οὔτε δι' ἐπαγωγῆς ἄνευ τῆς αἰσθήσεως.

- 10 XIX. Ἔστι δὲ πᾶς συλλογισμὸς διὰ τριῶν ὄρων, καὶ ὁ μὲν δεικνύναι δυνάμενος ὅτι ὑπάρχει τὸ Α τῷ Γ διὰ τὸ ὑπάρχειν τῷ Β καὶ τοῦτο τῷ Γ, ὁ δὲ στερητικός, τὴν μὲν ἐτέραν πρότασιν ἔχων ὅτι ὑπάρχει τι ἄλλο ἄλλῳ, τὴν δ' ἐτέραν ὅτι οὐχ ὑπάρχει. φανερόν
- 15 οὖν ὅτι αἱ μὲν ἀρχαὶ καὶ αἱ λεγόμεναι ὑποθέσεις αὐταὶ εἰσι· λαβόντα γὰρ ταῦτα οὕτως ἀνάγκη δεικνύναι, οἷον ὅτι τὸ Α τῷ Γ ὑπάρχει διὰ τοῦ Β, πάλιν δ' ὅτι τὸ Α τῷ Β δι' ἄλλου μέσου, καὶ ὅτι τὸ Β τῷ Γ ὡσαύτως. κατὰ μὲν οὖν δόξαν συλλογιζομένοις καὶ μόνον διαλεκτικῶς δῆλον ὅτι τοῦτο μόνον σκε-
- 20 πτέον, εἰ ἐξ ὧν ἐνδέχεται ἐνδοξοτάτων γίγνεται ὁ συλλογισμὸς, ὥστ' εἰ καὶ μὴ ἔστι τι τῇ ἀληθείᾳ τῶν ΑΒ μέσον, δοκεῖ δὲ εἶναι, ὁ διὰ τούτου συλλογιζόμενος συλλελόγισται διαλεκτικῶς· πρὸς δ' ἀλήθειαν ἐκ τῶν ὑπαρχόντων δεῖ σκοπεῖν. ἔχει δ' οὕτως· ἐπειδὴ ἔστιν ὁ αὐτὸ μὲν κατ' ἄλλου κατηγορεῖται
- 25 μὴ κατὰ συμβεβηκός—λέγω δὲ τὸ κατὰ συμβεβηκός οἷον τὸ λευκὸν ποτ' ἐκεῖνό φαμεν εἶναι ἄνθρωπον, οὐχ ὁμοίως λέγοντες καὶ τὸν ἄνθρωπον λευκόν· ὁ μὲν γὰρ οὐχ ἕτερόν τι ὧν λευκὸν ἐστίν, τὸ δὲ λευκὸν ὅτι συμβέβηκε τῷ ἀνθρώπῳ εἶναι λευκῷ—

## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, I. XVIII-XIX

a determinate nature); and we cannot employ induction if we lack sense-perception, because it is sense-perception that apprehends particulars. It is impossible to gain scientific knowledge of them, since they can neither be apprehended from universals without induction, nor through induction apart from sense-perception.

XIX. Every syllogism is effected by means of three terms. One kind has the effect of proving that A applies to C because A applies to B and B to C; the other is negative, and has for one premiss the affirmative and for the other the negative attribution of one term to another. It is evident, then, that these are the starting-points and so-called hypotheses (of syllogism); for it is by assuming them in this way that one must effect one's proof, *e.g.*, that A applies by means of B to C, and again that A applies to B through some other term as middle, and similarly that B applies to C. Now if we are arguing with a view to plausibility, *i.e.*, only dialectically, clearly we need only consider whether the conclusion proceeds from premisses which are as widely as possible accepted; so that although a given term is not really the middle between A and B, provided that it is accepted as such, if we draw our inference through it the inference is dialectically sound. But if our object is truth, we must base our investigation on the actual facts. Now the position is this. There are terms which are predicable of something else not accidentally—by “accidentally” I mean as we sometimes say “that white <thing> is a man,” which is not the same as saying “the man is white,” since a man is not a white thing because he is something else, but the white <thing> is a man because it is an accident of the man to be

In demonstration the premisses express true relations.

Some terms are essentially subjects; others essentially attributes.

81 b

ἔστιν οὖν ἑνία τοιαῦτα ὥστε καθ' αὐτὰ κατηγορεῖ-  
 30 σθαι. ἔστω δὴ τὸ Γ τοιοῦτον ὃ αὐτὸ μὲν μηκέτι  
 ὑπάρχει ἄλλω, τούτῳ δὲ τὸ Β πρῶτῳ, καὶ οὐκ  
 ἔστιν ἄλλο μεταξὺ· καὶ πάλιν τὸ Ε τῷ Ζ ὡσαύτως,  
 καὶ τοῦτο τῷ Β. ἄρ' οὖν τοῦτο ἀνάγκη στήναι, ἢ  
 ἐνδέχεται εἰς ἄπειρον ἰέναι; καὶ πάλιν εἰ τοῦ μὲν  
 Α μηδὲν κατηγορεῖται καθ' αὐτὸ τὸ δὲ Α τῷ Θ  
 35 ὑπάρχει πρῶτῳ, μεταξὺ δὲ μηδενὶ προτέρῳ, καὶ τὸ  
 Θ τῷ Η, καὶ τοῦτο τῷ Β, ἄρα καὶ τοῦτο ἵστασθαι  
 ἀνάγκη, ἢ καὶ τοῦτ' ἐνδέξεται εἰς ἄπειρον ἰέναι;  
 διαφέρει δὲ τοῦτο τοῦ πρότερον τοσοῦτον, ὅτι τὸ  
 μὲν ἔστιν, ἄρα ἐνδέχεται ἀρξαμένῳ ἀπὸ τοιούτου ὃ  
 40 μηδενὶ ὑπάρχει ἑτέρῳ ἄλλ' ἄλλο ἐκείνῳ, ἐπὶ τὸ  
 ἄνω εἰς ἄπειρον ἰέναι, θάτερον δὲ ἀρξάμενον ἀπὸ  
 82 a τοιούτου ὃ αὐτὸ μὲν ἄλλου ἐκείνου δὲ μηδὲν κατη-  
 γορεῖται, ἐπὶ τὸ κάτω σκοπεῖν εἰ ἐνδέχεται εἰς  
 ἄπειρον ἰέναι. ἔτι τὰ μεταξὺ ἄρ' ἐνδέχεται ἄπειρα  
 εἶναι ὠρισμένων τῶν ἄκρων; λέγω δ' οἶον εἰ τὸ Α  
 5 τῷ Γ ὑπάρχει, μέσον δ' αὐτῶν τὸ Β, τοῦ δὲ Β καὶ  
 τοῦ Α ἕτερα, τούτων δ' ἄλλα, ἄρα καὶ ταῦτα εἰς  
 ἄπειρον ἐνδέχεται ἰέναι, ἢ ἀδύνατον; ἔστι δὲ τοῦτο  
 σκοπεῖν ταῦτο καὶ εἰ αἱ ἀποδείξεις εἰς ἄπειρον  
 ἔρχονται, καὶ εἰ ἔστιν ἀπόδειξις ἅπαντος, ἢ πρὸς  
 ἄλληλα περαίνεται. ὁμοίως δὲ λέγω καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν  
 10 στερητικῶν συλλογισμῶν καὶ προτάσεων, οἶον εἰ τὸ  
 Α μὴ ὑπάρχει τῷ Β μηδενί, ἥτοι πρῶτῳ, ἢ ἔσται  
 τι μεταξὺ ᾧ προτέρῳ οὐχ ὑπάρχει (οἶον εἰ τῷ<sup>1</sup> Η,

<sup>1</sup> τῷ Α<sup>2</sup>η: τὸ ΑΒδ.

<sup>a</sup> The distinction which Aristotle is drawing between natural subjects and natural attributes is partly obscured in Greek by the substantival use of the neuter adjective. What he seems to mean here is that "white" is not really the sub-



white <sup>a</sup>—, some things, then, are such that they are of their own nature predicable. Let C be such that it does not further apply to any other term, but B applies directly to C, and there is no other term mediating between them. Again, let E apply in the same way to F, and F to B. Is there then any necessary limit to this series, or may it proceed to infinity? Again, if nothing is of itself predicable of A, but A applies directly to H and to no intermediate term first, and H applies to G and G to B, must this series too come to an end, or may it too proceed to infinity? The latter question differs from the former in that the first asks “Is it possible, if we start from a term such that it applies to nothing else, but something else applies to it, to proceed to infinity in the upward direction?” and the latter asks whether, if we start from a term such that it is itself predicable of something else, but nothing is predicable of it, we can proceed to infinity in the downward direction. Further, can the intermediate terms be infinite in number when the extremes are definite? I mean, *e.g.*, if A applies to C, and B is their middle term, and other terms are predicable of B and A, and again other terms are predicable of these, can these too proceed to infinity, or is this impossible? To inquire into this is the same as to inquire whether demonstrations form an infinite series, *i.e.*, whether there is a demonstration of everything, or the extremes are limited in relation one to the other. Similarly too in the case of negative syllogisms and premisses; *e.g.*, if A applies to no B, either it does so directly, or there will be some intermediate term, *e.g.*, G, to which it first does not apply, but an accidental attribute of that subject.

Can predication form an infinite chain (1) of attributes upwards from a fixed subject, (2) of subjects downwards from a fixed attribute,

(3) by interpolation between fixed extremes?

82 a

ὁ τῷ B ὑπάρχει παντί) καὶ πάλιν τούτου ἔτι ἄλλω  
προτέρῳ, οἷον εἰ τῷ<sup>1</sup> Θ, ὁ τῷ H παντὶ ὑπάρχει. καὶ  
γὰρ ἐπὶ τούτων ἢ ἄπειρα οἷς ὑπάρχει προτέροις ἢ  
ἴσταιται.

- 15 Ἐπὶ δὲ τῶν ἀντιστρεφόντων οὐχ ὁμοίως ἔχει. οὐ  
γὰρ ἔστιν ἐν τοῖς ἀντικατηγορουμένοις<sup>2</sup> οὐδ' πρώτου  
κατηγορεῖται ἢ τελευταίου· πάντα γὰρ πρὸς πάντα  
ταύτη γε ὁμοίως ἔχει, εἴτ' ἔστιν ἄπειρα τὰ κατ'  
αὐτοῦ κατηγορούμενα εἴτ' ἀμφοτέρᾳ ἔστι τὰ ἀπορη-  
θέντα ἄπειρα· πλὴν εἰ μὴ ὁμοίως ἐνδέχεται ἀντι-  
20 στρέφειν, ἀλλὰ τὸ μὲν ὡς συμβεβηκὸς τὸ δ' ὡς  
κατηγορίαν.

XX. Ὅτι μὲν οὖν τὰ μεταξὺ οὐκ ἐνδέχεται ἄπει-  
ρα εἶναι, εἰ ἐπὶ τὸ κάτω καὶ τὸ ἄνω ἴστανται αἱ  
κατηγορίαι, δῆλον (λέγω δ' ἄνω μὲν τὴν ἐπὶ τὸ  
καθόλου μᾶλλον, κάτω δὲ τὴν ἐπὶ τὸ κατὰ μέρος).  
25 εἰ γὰρ τοῦ A κατηγορουμένου κατὰ τοῦ Z ἄπειρα  
τὰ μεταξὺ, ἐφ' ὧν B, δῆλον ὅτι ἐνδέχουσιν ἂν ὥστε  
καὶ ἀπὸ τοῦ A ἐπὶ τὸ κάτω ἕτερον ἑτέρου κατη-  
γορεῖσθαι εἰς ἄπειρον (πρὶν γὰρ ἐπὶ τὸ Z ἐλθεῖν  
ἄπειρα τὰ μεταξὺ) καὶ ἀπὸ τοῦ Z ἐπὶ τὸ ἄνω  
ἄπειρα πρὶν ἐπὶ τὸ A ἐλθεῖν· ὥστ' εἰ ταῦτα ἀδύνατα,  
30 καὶ τοῦ A καὶ Z ἀδύνατον ἄπειρα εἶναι μεταξὺ.

<sup>1</sup> τῷ A<sup>2</sup>n : τὸ ABd.

<sup>2</sup> κατηγορουμένοις A<sup>1</sup>Bd.

<sup>a</sup> In the sense that predicate and subject are strictly inter-  
changeable.

<sup>b</sup> i.e., additional attributes or additional subjects. In this  
case, however, the distinction is meaningless, because (the

but which applies to all B; and again some other term prior to G, *e.g.*, H, to which A does not apply, but which applies to all G. In this case too either the intermediate terms to which A is more directly related in attribution are infinite in number, or the series has a limit.

If the premisses are convertible,<sup>a</sup> however, the conditions are not the same. Where the terms are reciprocally predicable there is none of which another is primarily or ultimately predicated, since in this respect all are similarly related, whether the terms predicated of the subject are infinite in number or both classes<sup>b</sup> about which we expressed uncertainty are infinite in number. The only exception is if the terms are not convertible in the same way, but one only accidentally and the other as a true predicate.<sup>c</sup>

If subject and predicate are interchangeable there is no series.

XX. It is obvious that the intermediate terms cannot be infinite in number if there is an upward and a downward limit to predication (by "upward" I mean in the direction of the universal, and by "downward" in that of the particular). For if when A is predicated of F the intermediate terms—B—are infinite in number, clearly it would be possible both starting from A to predicate one term of another in the downward direction to infinity (since the intermediate terms before one reaches F are infinite in number), and starting from F to predicate to infinity in the upward direction before one reaches A. Thus if these results are impossible, it is also impossible that there should be infinitely many intermediate terms between A and terms being mutually predicable of one another) none is either subject or attribute more than another. Such terms (*e.g.*, properties of a species) form a circle, not a series, of predication.

Between fixed extremes there is no infinite chain in affirmative predication.

<sup>a</sup> Cf. 81 b 25-29.

82 a

οὐδὲ γὰρ εἴ τις λέγοι ὅτι τὰ μὲν ἐστὶ τῶν ABZ<sup>1</sup>  
 ἐχόμενα ἀλλήλων ὥστε μὴ εἶναι μεταξύ, τὰ δ' οὐκ  
 ἔστι λαβεῖν, οὐδὲν διαφέρει. ὁ γὰρ ἂν λάβω τῶν  
 B, ἔσται πρὸς τὸ A ἢ πρὸς τὸ Z ἢ ἄπειρα τὰ  
 μεταξύ ἢ οὐ. ἀφ' οὗ δὴ πρῶτον ἄπειρα, εἴτ' εὐθύς  
 35 εἴτε μὴ εὐθύς, οὐδὲν διαφέρει· τὰ γὰρ μετὰ ταῦτα  
 ἄπειρά ἐστιν.

XXI. Φανερόν δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τῆς στερητικῆς ἀπο-  
 δείξεως ὅτι στήσεται, εἴπερ ἐπὶ τῆς κατηγορικῆς  
 ἴσταται ἐπ' ἀμφοτέρα. ἔστω γὰρ μὴ ἐνδεχόμενον  
 μήτε ἐπὶ τὸ ἄνω ἀπὸ τοῦ ὑστάτου εἰς ἄπειρον ἵεναι  
 82 b (λέγω δ' ὑστατον ὃ αὐτὸ μὲν ἄλλω μηδενὶ ὑπάρχει,  
 ἐκείνῳ δὲ ἄλλο, οἷον τὸ Z) μήτε ἀπὸ τοῦ πρώτου  
 ἐπὶ τὸ ὑστατον (λέγω δὲ πρῶτον ὃ αὐτὸ μὲν κατ'  
 ἄλλου, κατ' ἐκείνου δὲ μηδὲν ἄλλο). εἰ δὴ ταῦτ'  
 ἔστι, καὶ ἐπὶ τῆς ἀποφάσεως στήσεται. τριχῶς γὰρ  
 5 δεικνυται μὴ ὑπάρχον. ἢ γὰρ ᾧ μὲν τὸ Γ, τὸ B  
 ὑπάρχει παντί, ᾧ δὲ τὸ B, οὐδενὶ τὸ A. τοῦ μὲν  
 τοίνυν BΓ, καὶ αἰεὶ τοῦ ἑτέρου διαστήματος, ἀνάγκη  
 βαδίζειν εἰς ἄμεσα· κατηγορικὸν γὰρ τοῦτο τὸ  
 διάστημα. τὸ δ' ἕτερον δῆλον ὅτι εἰ ἄλλω οὐχ  
 ὑπάρχει προτέρω, οἷον τῷ Δ, τοῦτο δεήσει τῷ B  
 10 παντὶ ὑπάρχειν· καὶ εἰ πάλιν ἄλλω τοῦ Δ προτέρω  
 οὐχ ὑπάρχει, ἐκείνο δεήσει τῷ Δ παντὶ ὑπάρχειν·

<sup>1</sup> ABZ Waitz : ABΓ ABdn : AB M, Bekker.

<sup>a</sup> Sc., from A or F.

<sup>b</sup> The argument is : A negative conclusion can be proved in each of the three figures. In any example (Aristotle gives one in each figure, viz. Celarent, Camestres and Bocardo) (1) we cannot assume an infinitive number of middles between



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F. Nor does it affect the case supposing that it be said that some of the terms in the series AB . . . F are contiguous, so that there can be no intermediates between them, and that others cannot be grasped at all ; for whatever B we take, the intermediates in the direction of either A or F will either be infinite in number or not. It makes no difference where the infinite series first starts, whether immediately <sup>a</sup> or not ; the rest of the terms are infinite in number.

XXI. If there is a limit to the series in both directions in affirmative demonstration, evidently there will be a limit in negative demonstrations also. Let it be impossible to continue to infinity either upwards from the last term (by "last term" I mean that which applies to no other term, whereas some other term, *e.g.*, F, applies to it) or from the first term towards the last (by "first term" I mean that which is predicable of another but has no other term predicated of it). If these conditions obtain, there will be a limit in negation too. There are three ways in which one term can be proved not to apply to another.<sup>b</sup> (1) B applies to all that to which C applies, but A to none of that to which B applies. Now in the premiss BC, and generally in the minor premiss, we must reach immediate propositions, because this premiss is affirmative. As for the other term,<sup>c</sup> clearly if it is inapplicable to another prior term, *e.g.*, D, this term will have to apply to all B. Again, if it is inapplicable to another term prior to D, that term will have to the terms of an affirmative premiss ; (2) mediation of a negative premiss always gives two new premisses, one affirmative and one negative ; since the former are limited in number, the latter must be too.

<sup>c</sup> *Viz.* A. BeA is proved by DeA and BaD ; and similarly with DeA.

If affirmative predication must have limits, so must negative.

Proof in the first figure.

82 b

ὥστ' ἐπεὶ ἡ ἐπὶ τὸ ἄνω<sup>1</sup> ἴσταται ὁδός, καὶ ἡ ἐπὶ τὸ  
 Α<sup>2</sup> στήσεται, καὶ ἔσται τι πρῶτον ᾧ οὐχ ὑπάρχει.

Πάλιν εἰ τὸ μὲν Β παντὶ τῷ Α τῷ δὲ Γ μηδενί,  
 τὸ Α τῶν<sup>3</sup> Γ οὐδενὶ ὑπάρχει. πάλιν τοῦτο εἰ δεῖ δεῖ-  
 15 ξαι, δῆλον ὅτι ἡ διὰ τοῦ ἄνω τρόπου δειχθήσεται  
 ἡ διὰ τούτου ἡ διὰ τοῦ τρίτου. ὁ μὲν οὖν πρῶτος  
 εἴρηται, ὁ δὲ δεύτερος δειχθήσεται. οὕτω δ' ἂν  
 δεικνύοι, οἷον ὅτι τὸ Δ τῷ μὲν Β παντὶ ὑπάρχει τῷ  
 δὲ Γ οὐδενί, εἰ ἀνάγκη ὑπάρχειν τι τῷ Β. καὶ  
 πάλιν εἰ τοῦτο τῷ Γ μὴ ὑπάρξει, ἄλλο τῷ Δ  
 20 ὑπάρχει, ὃ τῷ Γ οὐχ ὑπάρχει. οὐκοῦν ἐπεὶ τὸ  
 ὑπάρχειν αἰεὶ τῷ ἀνωτέρω ἴσταται, στήσεται καὶ τὸ  
 μὴ ὑπάρχειν.

Ὁ δὲ τρίτος τρόπος ἦν· εἰ τὸ μὲν Α τῷ Β παντὶ  
 ὑπάρχει, τὸ δὲ Γ μὴ ὑπάρχει, οὐ παντὶ ὑπάρχει τὸ  
 Γ ᾧ τὸ Α. πάλιν δὲ τοῦτο ἡ διὰ τῶν ἄνω εἰ-  
 25 ρημένων ἡ ὁμοίως δειχθήσεται. ἐκείνως μὲν δὴ  
 ἴσταται· εἰ δ' οὕτω, πάλιν λήψεται τὸ Β τῷ Ε  
 ὑπάρχειν, ᾧ τὸ Γ μὴ παντὶ ὑπάρχει. καὶ τοῦτο  
 πάλιν ὁμοίως. ἐπεὶ δ' ὑπόκειται ἴστασθαι καὶ ἐπὶ  
 τὸ κάτω, δῆλον ὅτι στήσεται καὶ τὸ Γ οὐχ ὑπάρχον.

Φανερόν δ' ὅτι καὶ ἐὰν μὴ μιᾷ ὁδῷ δεικνύηται  
 30 ἀλλὰ πάσαις, ὅτε μὲν ἐκ τοῦ πρώτου σχήματος ὅτε

<sup>1</sup> κάτω fecit n, Bekker.

<sup>2</sup> Α n<sup>1</sup>, Ross : Δ ABd : ἄνω n<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>3</sup> τῷ D.

<sup>a</sup> The required sense is fairly clear, and Ross's readings, which I have adopted, are at least compatible with it; but the text is barely convincing.

<sup>b</sup> Not the conclusion, but the negative premiss CeB.

<sup>c</sup> i.e., by the first, second or third figure.

<sup>d</sup> As before, not only a negative but an affirmative premiss

apply to all D. Thus since the upward <affirmative> process is limited, the <negative> process towards A will be limited too,<sup>a</sup> and there will be some first term to which A does not apply.

(2) If B applies to all A but to no C, A applies to no C. If it is now required to prove this,<sup>b</sup> clearly the proof will either be by the method described above, or by the present method, or by the third.<sup>c</sup> The first has been stated already ; the second will be proved now. The proof will be as follows : D applies to all B, but to no C (since some predicate must apply to B).<sup>d</sup> Again, since D is not to apply to C, some other term which does not apply to C applies to D. Thus since the affirmative series of attribution is limited in the upward direction, the negative series will also be limited.

Proof in the second figure.

(3) The third case is, as we have seen <sup>e</sup> ; if A applies and C does not apply to all B, C does not apply to all that to which A applies. This <sup>f</sup> again can be proved either by the foregoing methods or by a similar one. In the former case the series is clearly limited ; in the latter we shall assume this time that B applies to E, to not all of which C applies ; and this again will be proved similarly. Since we have assumed that there is a downward limit also,<sup>g</sup> clearly there will be a limit to the non-attribution of C.

Proof in the third figure.

It is evident that even if the proof is not effected by one method but by all three—now by the first must be interpolated. Ross's interpretation " if in fact there is any particular term D that necessarily belongs to B " seems improbable.

If all three figures are used, the result is the same.

<sup>e</sup> If this is the meaning here of the " philosophical imperfect," the reference is presumably to the discussion of the third figure in *An. Pr.* I. vi.

<sup>f</sup> The negative premiss BoC.

<sup>g</sup> 82 a 37.

82 b

δὲ ἐκ τοῦ δευτέρου ἢ τρίτου, ὅτι καὶ οὕτω στήσεται· πεπερασμένα γάρ εἰσιν αἱ ὁδοί, τὰ δὲ πεπερασμένα πεπερασμενάκις ἀνάγκη πεπεράνθαι πάντα.

Ὅτι μὲν οὖν ἐπὶ τῆς στερήσεως, εἶπερ καὶ ἐπὶ 35 τοῦ ὑπάρχειν, ἴσταται, δῆλον· ὅτι δ' ἐπ' ἐκείνων, λογικῶς μὲν θεωροῦσιν ὧδε φανερόν.

XXII. Ἐπὶ μὲν οὖν τῶν ἐν τῷ τί ἐστι κατηγορουμένων δῆλον· εἰ γὰρ ἔστιν ὀρίσασθαι ἢ εἰ γνωστόν τὸ τί ἦν εἶναι, τὰ δ' ἄπειρα μὴ ἔστι δι- 83 a ελθεῖν, ἀνάγκη πεπεράνθαι τὰ ἐν τῷ τί ἐστι κατηγορούμενα. καθόλου δὲ ὧδε λέγωμεν. ἔστι γὰρ εἰπεῖν ἀληθῶς τὸ λευκὸν βαδίζειν καὶ τὸ μέγα ἐκεῖνο ξύλον εἶναι, καὶ πάλιν τὸ ξύλον μέγα εἶναι καὶ τὸν ἄνθρωπον βαδίζειν. ἕτερον δὲ ἔστι τὸ 5 οὕτως εἰπεῖν καὶ τὸ ἐκείνως. ὅταν μὲν γὰρ τὸ λευκὸν εἶναι φῶ ξύλον, τότε λέγω ὅτι ᾧ συμβέβηκε λευκῷ εἶναι ξύλον ἐστίν, ἀλλ' οὐχ ὥς τὸ ὑποκείμενον τῷ ξύλῳ τὸ λευκὸν ἔστι· καὶ γὰρ οὔτε λευκὸν ὄν οὔθ' ὅπερ λευκὸν τι ἐγένετο ξύλον, ὥστ' οὐκ ἔστιν ἀλλ' ἢ κατὰ συμβεβηκός. ὅταν δὲ τὸ ξύλον 10 λευκὸν εἶναι φῶ, οὐχ ὅτι ἕτερόν τί ἐστι λευκόν, ἐκείνῳ δὲ συμβέβηκε ξύλῳ εἶναι, οἷον ὅταν τὸν μουσικὸν λευκὸν εἶναι φῶ (τότε γὰρ ὅτι ὁ ἄνθρωπος λευκός ἐστιν, ᾧ συμβέβηκεν εἶναι μουσικῷ, λέγω), ἀλλὰ τὸ ξύλον ἐστὶ τὸ ὑποκείμενον, ὅπερ καὶ ἐγένετο, οὐχ ἕτερόν τι ὄν ἢ ὅπερ ξύλον ἢ ξύλον τί. εἰ

<sup>a</sup> Cf. 81 b 25-29.



figure, now by the second or third—even so the series will be limited ; for the methods are finite in number, and the product of a finite number of things taken in a finite number of ways must always be finite.

Thus it is clear that there is a limit to the series of negative attribution, if there is a limit in affirmative attribution also. That there is one in the latter case will be apparent in the light of the following dialectical argument.

Now to prove that affirmative predication has a limit.

XXII. In the case of predicates which form part of the essence, it is obvious <that there is a limit> ; since if definition is possible, *i.e.*, if the essential nature is knowable, and things infinite in number cannot be exhausted, the predicates which form part of the essence must be limited in number. But we can treat the question generally as follows. It is possible to state truly “the white <object> walks” and “that large thing is wood” and again “the <piece of> wood is large” and “the man walks.”<sup>a</sup> The two latter statements are quite different from the two former. When I say “the white thing is wood” I mean that the subject of which whiteness is an accident is wood, not that whiteness is the substrate in which the wood inheres ; for it was not *qua* white or *qua* a particular kind of white that the white thing became wood, and so it is wood only accidentally. But when I say “the wood is white,” I do not mean that something else is white, and that it is an accident of that something else to be wood, as when I say “the cultured <person> is white” ; for then I mean that the man, of whom it is an accident to be cultured, is white ; but the wood is the substrate, which actually became white, not *qua* anything else, but *qua* wood in general or a par-

Predication. Essential attributes must be limited.

Predication proper distinguished from accidental predication.

83 a

15 δὴ δεῖ νομοθετῆσαι, ἔστω τὸ οὕτω λέγειν κατηγορεῖν, τὸ δ' ἐκείνως ἥτοι μηδαμῶς κατηγορεῖν, ἢ κατηγορεῖν μὲν μὴ ἀπλῶς, κατὰ συμβεβηκός δὲ κατηγορεῖν. ἔστι δ' ὡς μὲν τὸ λευκὸν τὸ κατηγορούμενον, ὡς δὲ τὸ ξύλον τὸ οὐ κατηγορεῖται. ὑποκείσθω δὴ τὸ κατηγορούμενον κατηγορεῖσθαι  
 20 αἰεί, οὐ κατηγορεῖται, ἀπλῶς, ἀλλὰ μὴ κατὰ συμβεβηκός· οὕτω γὰρ αἱ ἀποδείξεις ἀποδεικνύουσιν. ὥστε ἢ ἐν τῷ τί ἐστιν ἢ ὅτι ποιὸν ἢ ποσὸν ἢ πρὸς τι ἢ ποιοῦν ἢ πάσχον ἢ ποῦ ἢ ποτέ, ὅταν ἐν καθ' ἐνὸς κατηγορηθῇ.

Ἔτι τὰ μὲν οὐσίαν σημαίνοντα ὅπερ ἐκείνο ἢ  
 25 ὅπερ ἐκείνὸ τι σημαίνει καθ' οὗ κατηγορεῖται· ὅσα δὲ μὴ οὐσίαν σημαίνει, ἀλλὰ κατ' ἄλλου ὑποκειμένου λέγεται ὃ μὴ ἐστὶ μήτε ὅπερ ἐκείνο μήτε ὅπερ ἐκείνὸ τι, συμβεβηκότα, οἷον κατὰ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου τὸ λευκόν. οὐ γὰρ ἐστὶν ὁ ἄνθρωπος οὔτε  
 30 ὅπερ λευκὸν οὔτε ὅπερ λευκόν τι, ἀλλὰ ζῶον ἴσως· ὅπερ γὰρ ζῶόν ἐστιν ὁ ἄνθρωπος. ὅσα δὲ μὴ οὐσίαν σημαίνει, δεῖ κατὰ τινος ὑποκειμένου κατηγορεῖσθαι, καὶ μὴ εἶναι τι λευκὸν ὃ οὐχ ἕτερόν τι ὃν λευκὸν ἐστὶν. τὰ γὰρ εἶδη χαιρέτω· τερετίσ-  
 35 μάτα τε γὰρ ἐστὶ, καὶ εἰ ἔστιν, οὐδὲν πρὸς τὸν λόγον ἐστίν· αἱ γὰρ ἀποδείξεις περὶ τῶν τοιούτων εἰσίν.

<sup>a</sup> Here, as often, the categories of "position" and "state" are omitted (for the full list see *Cat.* 1 b 25). In any case completeness is unnecessary since the distinction is between essential and non-essential attributes.

<sup>b</sup> In the sense of non-essential attributes.

ticular piece of wood. Thus if we are to lay down a general rule, let us call the latter kind of assertion predication, and the former kind either not predication at all, or predication not in an unqualified but in an accidental sense. The predicate corresponds to "white" in the example, and the subject to "wood." Let us assume, then, that the predicate is predicated of the subject, not accidentally but always without qualification, for that is how demonstrations conduct their proofs. Then, when one term is predicated of another, that which is stated is either part of the essence, or quality, quantity, relation, activity, passivity, place or time.<sup>a</sup>

Further, predicates which denote essence indicate that the subject is identical with the predicate or with some part of the predicate; but those which do not denote essence, but are stated of some other subject, which is identical neither with the predicate nor with some part of the predicate, indicate accidents,<sup>b</sup> as *e.g.*, "white" is predicated of "man"; man is identical neither with "white" nor with some particular form of "white"; but he is presumably an animal; for man is identical with a particular kind of animal. Predicates which do not denote essence must be predicated of some subject; a thing cannot be white unless it is something else first. The Forms may be dismissed—they are mere prattle<sup>c</sup>; and even if they exist, they are irrelevant, because demonstrations are concerned only with such predicates as we have described.

Non-essential predicates require a subject of their own.

<sup>c</sup> In view of Aristotle's debt to the Platonic Forms, it is ungenerous of him to describe the theory by a word which in Greek suggests the twittering of birds or a person's aimless humming. No doubt his indignation is roused by the thought of Forms as self-subsistent attributes.

83 a

"Ἐτι εἰ μὴ ἔστι τόδε τοῦδε<sup>1</sup> ποιότης καὶ κείνου  
 τούτου, μηδὲ ποιότητος ποιότης, ἀδύνατον ἀντι-  
 κατηγορεῖσθαι ἀλλήλων οὕτως, ἀλλ' ἀληθὲς μὲν  
 ἐνδέχεται εἰπεῖν, ἀντικατηγορῆσαι δ' ἀληθῶς οὐκ

83 b ἐνδέχεται. ἢ γάρ τοι ὥς οὐσία κατηγορηθήσεται,  
 οἶον ἢ γένος ὃν ἢ διαφορὰ τοῦ κατηγορουμένου.  
 ταῦτα δὲ δέδεικται ὅτι οὐκ ἔσται ἄπειρα, οὐτ' ἐπὶ  
 τὸ κάτω οὐτ' ἐπὶ τὸ ἄνω (οἶον ἄνθρωπος δίπουν,  
 τοῦτο ζῶον, τοῦτο δ' ἕτερον· οὐδὲ τὸ ζῶον κατ'  
 5 ἀνθρώπου, τοῦτο δὲ κατὰ Καλλίου, τοῦτο δὲ κατ'  
 ἄλλου ἐν τῷ τί ἐστιν), τὴν μὲν γὰρ οὐσίαν ἅπασαν  
 ἔστιν ὀρίσασθαι τὴν τοιαύτην, τὰ δ' ἄπειρα οὐκ  
 ἔστι διεξελεῖν νοοῦντα. ὥστ' οὐτ' ἐπὶ τὸ ἄνω οὐτ'  
 ἐπὶ τὸ κάτω ἄπειρα· ἐκείνην γὰρ οὐκ ἔστιν ὀρίσα-  
 σθαι, ἥς τὰ ἄπειρα κατηγορεῖται. ὥς μὲν δὴ γένη  
 10 ἀλλήλων οὐκ ἀντικατηγορηθήσεται· ἔσται γὰρ αὐτὸ  
 ὅπερ αὐτό τι. οὐδὲ μὴν τοῦ ποιοῦ ἢ τῶν ἄλλων  
 οὐδέν, ἂν μὴ κατὰ συμβεβηκὸς κατηγορηθῇ· πάντα  
 γὰρ ταῦτα συμβέβηκε καὶ κατὰ τῶν οὐσιῶν κατ-  
 ηγορεῖται. ἀλλὰ δὴ ὅτι οὐδ' εἰς τὸ ἄνω ἄπειρα  
 ἔσται· ἐκάστου γὰρ κατηγορεῖται ὃ ἂν σημαίνει ἢ  
 15 ποῖόν τι ἢ ποσόν τι ἢ τι τῶν τοιούτων ἢ τὰ ἐν τῇ  
 οὐσίᾳ· ταῦτα δὲ πεπέρανται, καὶ τὰ γένη τῶν κατη-  
 γοριῶν πεπέρανται· ἢ γὰρ ποῖόν ἢ ποσόν ἢ πρὸς τι  
 ἢ ποιοῦν ἢ πάσχον ἢ πού ἢ ποτέ.

<sup>1</sup> τόδε τοῦδε n, Philoponus : τοῦτο τουδὶ ABd.

<sup>a</sup> Sc., "and the downward limit is the individual."

<sup>b</sup> If X = part of Y, and Y = part of X, each will be identical with part of (part of) itself.

<sup>c</sup> 82 b 37.



Further, if it is not possible both for X to be a quality of Y and *vice versa*, i.e., if there cannot be a quality of a quality, X and Y cannot be predicated reciprocally in the way in which we have laid down. It may be true to state one of the other, but the reciprocating statement cannot be true. For (1) the predicate may be stated as substance, i.e., the genus or differentia of the subject. (It has been shown that predication of this kind cannot proceed to infinity either upwards or downwards—e.g., man is biped, biped is animal, animal is something else ; or animal is predicated of man, man of Callias, and Callias of something else which is part of the essence—for every substance of this sort can be defined, but it is impossible to exhaust in thought an infinite series. Hence the series cannot be infinite either upwards or downwards, for we cannot define a substance of which an infinite number of terms is predicated.<sup>a</sup>) Then they cannot be predicated as genera of each other, for then a thing will be identical with a particular part of itself.<sup>b</sup> (2) Nor can anything be predicated reciprocally of quality or any of the other categories, except accidentally ; for all these are attributes and are predicable only of substances. As for the proof that the series will not be infinite in the upper direction, at every step the predicate denotes either quality or quantity or one of the other categories, or else the elements in the essence. But the latter are limited in number,<sup>c</sup> and so are the kinds of categories, viz., quality, quantity, relation, activity, passivity, place and time.<sup>d</sup>

Predication proper is non-reciprocating.

<sup>a</sup> Cf. 83 a 21. That even the full list of ten categories is exhaustive is nowhere proved, nor indeed is it capable of proof.

Ἵπόκειται δὲ ἐν καθ' ἐνὸς κατηγορεῖσθαι, αὐτὰ  
 δὲ αὐτῶν, ὅσα μὴ τί ἐστι, μὴ κατηγορεῖσθαι. συμ-  
 20 βεβηκότα γάρ ἐστι πάντα, ἀλλὰ τὰ μὲν καθ' αὐτά,  
 τὰ δὲ καθ' ἕτερον τρόπον· ταῦτα δὲ πάντα καθ'  
 ὑποκειμένου τινὸς κατηγορεῖσθαι φάμεν, τὸ δὲ συμ-  
 βεβηκὸς οὐκ εἶναι ὑποκείμενόν τι· οὐδὲν γὰρ τῶν  
 τοιούτων τίθεμεν εἶναι ὃ οὐχ ἕτερόν τι ὃν λέγεται  
 ὃ λέγεται, ἀλλ' αὐτὸ ἄλλου καὶ ἄλλ' ἅττα καθ'  
 25 ἐτέρου. οὐτ' εἰς τὸ ἄνω ἄρα ἐν καθ' ἐνὸς οὐτ' εἰς  
 τὸ κάτω ὑπάρχειν λεχθήσεται. καθ' ὧν μὲν γὰρ  
 λέγεται τὰ συμβεβηκότα, ὅσα ἐν τῇ οὐσίᾳ ἐκάστου·  
 ταῦτα δὲ οὐκ ἄπειρα· ἄνω δὲ ταῦτά τε καὶ τὰ συμ-  
 βεβηκότα, ἀμφοτέρω οὐκ ἄπειρα. ἀνάγκη ἄρα  
 εἶναί τι οὐ πρῶτόν τι κατηγορεῖται καὶ τούτου  
 30 ἄλλο, καὶ τοῦτο ἴστασθαι καὶ εἶναί τι ὃ οὐκέτι οὔτε  
 κατ' ἄλλου προτέρου οὔτε κατ' ἐκείνου ἄλλο πρό-  
 τερον κατηγορεῖται.

Εἰς μὲν οὖν τρόπος λέγεται ἀποδείξεως οὗτος,  
 ἔτι δ' ἄλλος, εἰ ὧν πρότερα ἅττα κατηγορεῖται,  
 ἔστι τούτων ἀπόδειξις, ὧν δ' ἔστιν ἀπόδειξις, οὔτε  
 35 βέλτιον ἔχειν ἐγχωρεῖ πρὸς αὐτὰ τοῦ εἰδέναι, οὐτ'  
 εἰδέναι ἄνευ ἀποδείξεως, εἰ δὲ τόδε διὰ τῶνδε γνώ-

<sup>a</sup> Definitory predicates are (in a sense at least) convertible with their subjects.

<sup>b</sup> *i.e.*, as a subject. Mure and Ross seem to be mistaken in taking τοιούτων as referring to συμβεβηκότα.

<sup>c</sup> Cf. 82 b 37, 83 b 15.

<sup>d</sup> Cf. 83 b 13.

<sup>e</sup> Predication is limited at one end by the individual substance, at the other by the highest genus or category.

<sup>f</sup> *i.e.*, premisses which depend upon other premisses.

## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, I. XXII

We have now established that in predication one predicate is asserted of one subject, and that predicates (except those which denote essence <sup>a</sup>) are not predicated of one another. They are all attributes, some *per se* and others in a different sense ; but we hold that they are all predicated of some subject, whereas an attribute is not a kind of subject ; because we do not regard as such <sup>b</sup> anything which is not something else distinct from the statement which is made about it, but is merely stated of some other term, while other attributes are predicated of a different subject. It follows that the assertion of a single predicate of a single subject cannot form an infinite series either upwards or downwards ; for the subjects of which the attributes are stated are no more than those which are implied in the essence of the individual, and these are not infinite in number <sup>c</sup> ; while in the upward direction we have these subjects and their attributes, both of which are limited in number.<sup>d</sup> Hence there must be some subject of which something is first predicated, and something else must be predicated of this, and the series must be finite ; *i.e.*, there must be a term which is not predicated of any other term prior to it, and of which no other prior term is predicated.<sup>e</sup>

Recapitulation, leading to

first dialectical proof.

This is a statement of one manner of proof, but there is another also ; predicates of whose subjects other prior predicates can be predicated <sup>f</sup> are demonstrable ; and it is not possible to stand in a better relation <sup>g</sup> than that of knowledge to anything which is demonstrable, nor to know it apart from demonstration. Moreover, if one thing is knowable through

Second dialectical proof.

<sup>a</sup> Aristotle refers to intuition, by which we apprehend the indemonstrable ; *cf.* Book II, ch. xix.

83 b

ριμον, τάδε δὲ μὴ ἴσμεν μηδὲ βέλτιον ἔχομεν πρὸς αὐτὰ τοῦ εἰδέναι, οὐδὲ τὸ διὰ τούτων γνώριμον ἐπιστησόμεθα. εἰ οὖν ἔστι τι εἰδέναι δι' ἀποδείξεως ἀπλῶς καὶ μὴ ἐκ τινῶν μηδ' ἐξ ὑποθέσεως, ἀνάγκη

84 a ἴστασθαι τὰς κατηγορίας τὰς μεταξύ. εἰ γὰρ μὴ ἴστανται, ἀλλ' ἔστιν αἰὲ τοῦ ληφθέντος ἐπάνω, ἀπάντων ἔσται ἀπόδειξις· ὥστ' εἰ τὰ ἄπειρα μὴ ἐγχωρεῖ διελθεῖν, ὧν ἔστιν ἀπόδειξις, ταῦτ' οὐκ εἰσόμεθα δι' ἀποδείξεως. εἰ οὖν μηδὲ βέλτιον ἔχομεν  
5 πρὸς αὐτὰ τοῦ εἰδέναι, οὐκ ἔσται οὐδὲν ἐπίστασθαι δι' ἀποδείξεως ἀπλῶς, ἀλλ' ἐξ ὑποθέσεως.

Λογικῶς μὲν οὖν ἐκ τούτων ἂν τις πιστεύσειε περὶ τοῦ λεχθέντος, ἀναλυτικῶς δὲ διὰ τῶνδε φανερὸν συντομώτερον, ὅτι οὐτ' ἐπὶ τὸ ἄνω οὐτ' ἐπὶ τὸ  
10 κάτω ἄπειρα τὰ κατηγορούμενα ἐνδέχεται εἶναι ἐν ταῖς ἀποδεικτικαῖς ἐπιστήμαις, περὶ ὧν ἡ σκέψις ἐστίν.

Ἡ μὲν γὰρ ἀπόδειξις ἐστὶ τῶν ὅσα ὑπάρχει καθ' αὐτὰ τοῖς πράγμασιν. καθ' αὐτὰ δὲ διττῶς· ὅσα τε γὰρ ἐν<sup>1</sup> ἐκείνοις ἐνυπάρχει ἐν τῷ τί ἐστι, καὶ οἷς αὐτὰ ἐν τῷ τί ἐστὶν ὑπάρχουσιν αὐτοῖς· οἷον τῷ  
15 ἀριθμῷ τὸ περιττόν, ὃ ὑπάρχει μὲν ἀριθμῷ, ἐνυπάρχει δ' αὐτὸς ὁ ἀριθμὸς ἐν τῷ λόγῳ αὐτοῦ, καὶ πάλιν πλῆθος ἢ τὸ διαιρετόν ἐν τῷ λόγῳ τοῦ ἀριθμοῦ ἐνυπάρχει. τούτων δ' οὐδέτερα ἐνδέχεται

<sup>1</sup> ἐν secl. Jaeger.

<sup>a</sup> The proof is called analytical because it is based upon a principle of the relevant science, *viz.*, demonstration.

<sup>b</sup> See a 18 *infra*.



certain others, and we do not know the latter or stand in a better relation to them than that of knowledge, we shall have no scientific knowledge of that which is knowable through them. If, then, it is possible to know a thing absolutely through demonstration, and not as a qualified or hypothetical consequence, the series of intermediate predications must have a limit. If there is no limit, and there is always something higher than the term last taken, everything will be demonstrable. Therefore, since it is impossible to traverse the numerically infinite, we shall not know by means of demonstration those predicates which are demonstrable. Hence if at the same time we do not stand in a better relation to them than that of knowledge, it will not be possible to have scientific knowledge of anything absolutely through demonstration, but only hypothetically.

One might be convinced dialectically of the truth of our contention from the foregoing discussion; but by analytical<sup>a</sup> method it can be apprehended more readily from the following arguments that there cannot be either in the upward or in the downward direction an infinite series of predicates in the demonstrative sciences, which are the subject of our investigation.

Demonstration is concerned with the essential attributes of things. There are two senses in which attributes may be essential; (a) because they inhere in the essence of their subjects, or (b) because their subjects inhere in their essence. An example of (b) is the relation of "odd" <sup>b</sup> to number; "odd" is an attribute of number, and number itself is inherent in the definition of "odd." On the other hand, (a) plurality or divisibility is inherent in the definition of number. Neither of these processes of attribution

Analytical  
proof.

84 a

ἄπειρα εἶναι, οὐθ' ὥς τὸ περιττὸν τοῦ ἀριθμοῦ  
 (πάλιν γὰρ ἂν ἐν τῷ περιττῷ ἄλλο εἴη ᾧ ἐνυπῆρχεν  
 20 ὑπάρχοντι· τοῦτο δ' εἰ ἔστι, πρῶτον ὁ ἀριθμὸς  
 ἐνυπάρξει ὑπάρχουσιν αὐτῷ· εἰ οὖν μὴ ἐνδέχεται  
 ἄπειρα τοιαῦτα ὑπάρχειν ἐν τῷ ἐνί, οὐδ' ἐπὶ τὸ  
 ἄνω ἔσται ἄπειρα· ἀλλὰ μὴν ἀνάγκη γε πάντα  
 ὑπάρχειν τῷ πρώτῳ, οἷον τῷ ἀριθμῷ, κακείνοις  
 τὸν ἀριθμόν, ὥστ' ἀντιστρέφοντα ἔσται, ἀλλ' οὐχ  
 25 ὑπερτείνοντα)· οὐδὲ μὴν ὅσα ἐν τῷ τί ἐστὶν ἐν-  
 υπάρχει, οὐδὲ ταῦτα ἄπειρα· οὐδὲ γὰρ ἂν εἴη ὀρίσα-  
 σθαι. ὥστ' εἰ τὰ μὲν κατηγορούμενα καθ' αὐτὰ  
 πάντα λέγεται, ταῦτα δὲ μὴ ἄπειρα, ἴσταιτο ἂν τὰ  
 ἐπὶ τὸ ἄνω, ὥστε καὶ ἐπὶ τὸ κάτω.

Εἰ δ' οὕτω, καὶ τὰ ἐν τῷ μεταξύ δύο ὄρων αἰεὶ  
 30 πεπερασμένα. εἰ δὲ τοῦτο, δῆλον ἤδη καὶ τῶν  
 ἀποδείξεων ὅτι ἀνάγκη ἀρχάς τε εἶναι, καὶ μὴ πάν-  
 των εἶναι ἀπόδειξιν, ὅπερ ἔφαμέν τινες λέγειν κατ'  
 ἀρχάς. εἰ γὰρ εἰσὶν ἀρχαί, οὐτε πάντ' ἀποδεικτὰ  
 οὐτ' εἰς ἄπειρον οἷόν τε βαδίζειν· τὸ γὰρ εἶναι  
 τούτων ὁποτερονοῦν οὐδὲν ἄλλο ἐστὶν ἢ τὸ εἶναι  
 35 μὴδὲν διάστημα ἄμεσον καὶ ἀδιαίρετον, ἀλλὰ πάντα  
 διαιρετά. τῷ γὰρ ἐντὸς ἐμβάλλεσθαι ὄρον, ἀλλ'  
 οὐ τῷ προσλαμβάνεσθαι, ἀποδείκνυται τὸ ἀποδεικ-  
 νύμενον, ὥστ' εἰ τοῦτ' εἰς ἄπειρον ἐνδέχεται ἵεσθαι,  
 ἐνδέχοιτ' ἂν δύο ὄρων ἄπειρα μεταξύ εἶναι μέσα.

<sup>a</sup> Number is assumed to be the downward limit ; if there is no upward limit there will be terms with infinitely many elements in their essence.

<sup>b</sup> Thus they form not a vertical series but a kind of circle. Since they are convertible, "odd" must stand for "odd or even."

<sup>c</sup> Cf. 82 b 38.

<sup>d</sup> Proved in ch. xx.

<sup>e</sup> 72 b 6.

can proceed to infinity. (b) The series cannot be infinite when the relation is that of "odd" to number; for then in its turn "odd" would have another attribute in which "odd" was inherent; and if so, number must be ultimately inherent in the several "odds" which are its attributes. Thus since an infinite number of such attributes cannot apply to a single subject, the series will not be infinite in the upward direction either.<sup>a</sup> Actually all such attributes must so inhere in the ultimate subject—the attributes of number in number and number in them—that they will be commensurate with it and not extend beyond it.<sup>b</sup> Nor again are the attributes which inhere in the essence of their subject infinite in number; if they were, definition would be impossible.<sup>c</sup> Thus if all the attributes are predicated as essential, and as such cannot be infinite in number, the upward series must have a limit, and therefore so must the downward.

If this is so, the intermediates between any two terms must always be finite in number<sup>d</sup>; and if this is so, it is obvious at once that there must be first principles of demonstration, and that the view that everything is demonstrable (which we mentioned at the beginning<sup>e</sup> as held by some) is false. For if there are first principles, (1) not everything is demonstrable, and (2) demonstration cannot form an infinite series; because the rejection of either consequence immediately implies that no premiss is immediate and indivisible, but all are divisible. For it is by adding a term internally, and not externally, that a proposition is demonstrated. Thus if the process of demonstration can continue to infinity, it would be possible for there to be an infinite number of middles

84 b ἀλλὰ τοῦτ' ἀδύνατον, εἰ ἴστανται αἱ κατηγορίαι ἐπὶ τὸ ἄνω καὶ τὸ κάτω. ὅτι δὲ ἴστανται, δέδεικται λογικῶς μὲν πρότερον, ἀναλυτικῶς δὲ νῦν.

XXIII. Δεδειγμένων δὲ τούτων φανερόν ὅτι, εἴαν τι τὸ αὐτὸ δυσὶν ὑπάρχῃ, οἷον τὸ Α τῷ τε Γ καὶ  
 5 τῷ Δ, μὴ κατηγορουμένου θατέρου κατὰ θατέρου, ἢ μηδαμῶς ἢ μὴ κατὰ παντός, ὅτι οὐκ ἀεὶ κατὰ κοινόν τι ὑπάρξει. οἷον τῷ ἰσοσκελεῖ καὶ τῷ σκαληνῷ τὸ δυσὶν ὀρθαῖς ἴσας ἔχειν κατὰ κοινόν τι ὑπάρχει (ἢ γὰρ σχῆμά τι ὑπάρχει, καὶ οὐχ ἢ ἕτερον), τοῦτο δ' οὐκ ἀεὶ οὕτως ἔχει. ἔστω γὰρ τὸ  
 10 Β καθ' ὃ τὸ Α τῷ ΓΔ ὑπάρχει. δῆλον τοίνυν ὅτι καὶ τὸ Β τῷ Γ καὶ<sup>1</sup> Δ κατ' ἄλλο κοινόν, κἀκεῖνο καθ' ἕτερον, ὥστε δύο ὄρων μεταξὺ ἄπειροι ἂν ἐμπίπτοιεν ὅροι. ἀλλ' ἀδύνατον. κατὰ μὲν τοίνυν κοινόν τι ὑπάρχειν οὐκ ἀνάγκη ἀεὶ τὸ αὐτὸ πλείοσιν,  
 15 εἴπερ<sup>2</sup> ἔσται ἅμεσα διαστήματα. ἐν μέντοι τῷ αὐτῷ γένει καὶ ἐκ τῶν αὐτῶν ἀτόμων ἀνάγκη τοὺς ὅρους εἶναι, εἴπερ τῶν καθ' αὐτὰ ὑπαρχόντων ἔσται τὸ κοινόν· οὐ γὰρ ἦν ἐξ ἄλλου γένους εἰς ἄλλο διαβῆναι τὰ δεικνύμενα.

Φανερόν δὲ καὶ ὅτι, ὅταν τὸ Α τῷ Β ὑπάρχῃ, εἰ  
 20 μὲν ἔστι τι μέσον, ἔστι δείξαι ὅτι τὸ Α τῷ Β ὑπάρχει· καὶ στοιχεῖα τούτου ἐστὶ ταυτὰ<sup>3</sup> καὶ το-

<sup>1</sup> καὶ] καὶ τῷ D.

<sup>2</sup> εἴπερ ci. Jaeger: ἐπείπερ.

<sup>3</sup> ταυτὰ Ross: ταῦτα.



## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, I. XXII-XXIII

between two terms. This, however, is impossible, if the series of predications has an upward and a downward limit. That it has these limits was proved above by dialectical, and has now been proved by analytical method.

XXIII. Now that this fact has been established, it is evident that if the same attribute applies to two subjects, *e.g.*, if A applies both to C and to D, which are not reciprocally predicable of each other, at least not universally, the predicate will not always apply in virtue of a common characteristic. *E.g.*, "having the sum of its angles equal to two right angles" applies in virtue of a common characteristic to the isosceles and to the scalene triangle: it belongs to each of them *qua* a particular kind of figure, and not *qua* different. But this is not always so. Let B stand for the characteristic in virtue of which A applies to C and D. Then clearly B also applies to C and D in virtue of some other characteristic, and this in virtue of another; so that an infinite number of terms will be interpolated between the original two. But this is impossible.<sup>a</sup> Thus if there are to be immediate premisses it will not necessarily be in virtue of some common characteristic that the same predicate applies to more than one subject. If, however, it is an essential attribute that is to be proved common, the (middle) terms must belong to the same genus and (the premisses) be derived from the same immediate premisses; for we saw <sup>b</sup> that in proving propositions we cannot pass from one genus to another.

It is evident also that when A applies to B, if there is a middle term, it is possible to prove that A applies to B; and the elements of this proof are identical with the middle terms, or rather the same in number;

Corollaries:  
(1) Common attributes need not be identically mediated.

(2) Connexions are provable by middle terms.

84 b

σαῦθ' ὅσα μέσα ἐστίν· αἱ γὰρ ἄμεσοι προτάσεις  
στοιχεῖα, ἢ πᾶσαι ἢ αἱ καθόλου· εἰ δὲ μὴ ἔστιν,  
οὐκέτι ἔστιν ἀπόδειξις, ἀλλ' ἢ ἐπὶ τὰς ἀρχὰς ὁδὸς  
αὕτη ἐστίν. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ εἰ τὸ Α τῷ Β μὴ ὑπάρ-  
25 χει, εἰ μὲν ἔστιν ἢ μέσον ἢ πρότερον ᾧ οὐχ ὑπάρχει,  
ἔστιν ἀπόδειξις, εἰ δὲ μὴ, οὐκ ἔστιν, ἀλλ' ἀρχή· καὶ  
στοιχεῖα τοσαῦτ' ἐστὶν ὅσοι ὅροι· αἱ γὰρ τούτων  
προτάσεις ἀρχαὶ τῆς ἀποδείξεώς εἰσιν, καὶ ὥσπερ  
ἔναι ἀρχαί εἰσιν ἀναπόδεικτοι, ὅτι ἔστι τόδε τοδὶ  
30 καὶ ὑπάρχει τόδε τῷ δὶ, οὕτω καὶ ὅτι οὐκ ἔστι τόδε  
τοδὶ οὐδ' ὑπάρχει τόδε τῷ δὶ· ὥσθ' αἱ μὲν εἶναι τι,  
αἱ δὲ μὴ εἶναι τι ἔσονται ἀρχαί.

Ὅταν δὲ δέη δεῖξαι, ληπτέον ὁ τοῦ Β πρῶτον  
κατηγορεῖται. ἔστω τὸ Γ, καὶ τούτου ὁμοίως τὸ  
Δ.<sup>1</sup> καὶ οὕτως αἰεὶ βαδίζοντι οὐδέποτε ἔξωτέρω  
πρότασις οὐδ' ὑπάρχον λαμβάνεται τοῦ Α ἐν τῷ  
35 δεικνύναι, ἀλλ' αἰεὶ τὸ μέσον πυκνοῦται ἕως ἀδιαί-  
ρετα γένηται καὶ ἔν. ἔστι δ' ἐν ὅταν ἄμεσον γένη-  
ται, καὶ μία πρότασις ἀπλῶς ἢ ἄμεσος. καὶ ὥσπερ  
ἐν τοῖς ἄλλοις ἢ ἀρχὴ ἀπλοῦν, τοῦτο δ' οὐ ταὐτὸ  
πανταχοῦ, ἀλλ' ἐν βάρει μὲν μνᾶ, ἐν δὲ μέλει δίεςις,  
85 a ἄλλο δ' ἐν ἄλλῳ, οὕτως ἐν συλλογισμῷ τὸ ἐν πρό-  
τασις ἄμεσος, ἐν δ' ἀποδείξει καὶ ἐπιστήμῃ ὁ νοῦς.

Ἐν μὲν οὖν τοῖς δεικτικοῖς συλλογισμοῖς τοῦ

<sup>1</sup> Δ n, Ross : A.

<sup>a</sup> Assuming that there are several middles, forming with A and B a chain of immediate premisses, all of which, except the last, are "universal," i.e. majors.

## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, I. XXIII

for it is the immediate premisses—either all or those which are universal—that are elements.<sup>a</sup> If there is no middle term, demonstration is impossible; we are approaching first principles. Similarly too if A does not apply to B, if there is either a middle or a prior term to which A does not apply, demonstration is possible (otherwise it is not possible; we are dealing with a first principle); and there will be as many elements as there are (middle) terms; for it is the premisses containing these that are the principles of the demonstration. Just as there are some indemonstrable premisses to the effect that X is Y or X applies to Y, so there are others to the effect that X is not Y or does not apply to Y; so that some will be principles making an affirmative and others making a negative statement.

When, however, proof is required, we must assume (as middle) the immediate predicate of B. Let this be C, and let D similarly be predicated of C. If we continue this process we never assume in our proof a premiss or an attribute which falls outside A, but we go on packing the space between until the intervals are indivisible or unitary: and we have one unit when the premiss is immediate. It is only the immediate premiss that is *one* in the unqualified sense. Just as in all other genera the basic measure is something simple, and this is not the same in all cases, but in weight is the mina,<sup>b</sup> in music the quarter-tone, and so on in each genus, so in syllogism the unit is the immediate premiss, while in demonstration and understanding the unit is an act of intuition.<sup>c</sup>

In affirmative syllogisms, then, nothing falls outside

How to select these in (a) affirmative proof,

(b) negative proof.

<sup>b</sup> About 1 lb. avoirdupois.

<sup>c</sup> Which cognizes the immediate premiss.

ὑπάρχοντος οὐδὲν ἔξω πίπτει, ἐν δὲ τοῖς στερη-  
 τικοῖς, ἔνθα μὲν ὃ δεῖ ὑπάρχειν, οὐδὲν τούτου ἔξω  
 5 πίπτει, οἷον εἰ τὸ Α τῷ Β διὰ τοῦ Γ μὴ (εἰ γὰρ τῷ  
 μὲν Β παντὶ τὸ Γ, τῷ δὲ Γ μηδενὶ τὸ Α). πάλιν ἂν  
 δέη ὅτι τῷ Γ τὸ Α οὐδενὶ ὑπάρχει, μέσον ληπτέον  
 τοῦ Α καὶ Γ, καὶ οὕτως αἰ πορεύσεται. ἐὰν δὲ  
 δέη δεῖξαι ὅτι τὸ Δ τῷ Ε οὐχ ὑπάρχει τῷ τὸ Γ τῷ  
 μὲν Δ παντὶ ὑπάρχειν τῷ δὲ Ε μηδενὶ [ἢ μὴ παντί],<sup>1</sup>  
 10 τοῦ Ε οὐδέποτ' ἔξω πεσεῖται· τοῦτο δ' ἐστὶν ὧ [οὐ]<sup>2</sup>  
 δεῖ ὑπάρχειν. ἐπὶ δὲ τοῦ τρίτου τρόπου οὔτε ἀφ'  
 οὐ δεῖ οὔτε ὃ δεῖ στερῆσαι οὐδέποτ' ἔξω βαδιεῖται.

XXIV. Οὕσης δ' ἀποδείξεως τῆς μὲν καθόλου  
 τῆς δὲ κατὰ μέρος, καὶ τῆς μὲν κατηγορικῆς τῆς  
 15 δὲ στερητικῆς, ἀμφισβητεῖται ποτέρα βελτίων· ὥς  
 δ' αὕτως καὶ περὶ τῆς ἀποδεικνύναι λεγομένης καὶ  
 τῆς εἰς τὸ ἀδύνατον ἀγούσης ἀποδείξεως. πρῶτον  
 μὲν οὖν ἐπισκεψώμεθα περὶ τῆς καθόλου καὶ τῆς  
 κατὰ μέρος· δηλώσαντες δὲ τοῦτο, καὶ περὶ τῆς  
 δεικνύναι λεγομένης καὶ τῆς εἰς τὸ ἀδύνατον  
 εἰπώμεν.

<sup>1</sup> ἢ μὴ παντί secl. Ross.

<sup>2</sup> οὐ om. Dn<sup>1</sup>, Ross.

<sup>a</sup> i.e., no middle term is assumed that is wider than the predicate.

<sup>b</sup> Celarent in the first figure.

<sup>c</sup> Strictly non-attribution; Aristotle again means the predicate or major term.

<sup>d</sup> Ross is doubtless right in bracketing ἢ μὴ παντί and so confining the reference to Camestres, because Aristotle seems to have only universal conclusions in view.

<sup>e</sup> Since the major and minor terms are regarded as extremes, "outside" here means "below"; no middle will be narrower than the subject. It may, however (though Aristotle does not actually say so), be wider than the predicate.



the attribute.<sup>a</sup> In negative syllogisms (1) in one mood <sup>b</sup> nothing falls outside the term whose attribution <sup>c</sup> is required to be proved; e.g., supposing that it is required to be proved by means of C that A does not apply to B (the premisses being C applies to all B, and A to no C); if in turn it is required to prove that A applies to no C, a middle term must be assumed between A and C, and the process will continue in this way. (2) If, however, it is required to prove that D does not apply to E because C applies to all D but to none [or not to all] <sup>d</sup> of E, the additional terms will never fall outside <sup>e</sup> E, i.e., the subject to which the predicate is required (not) <sup>f</sup> to apply. (3) In the third mood <sup>g</sup> the additional terms will never proceed beyond the subject or the predicate of the required negative conclusion.

XXIV. Since demonstration may be either universal or particular,<sup>h</sup> and either affirmative or negative, it may be debated which is the better. So too with regard to so-called ostensive proof and *reductio ad impossibile*. First, then, let us consider universal and particular demonstration. When we have cleared up this question let us discuss direct proof and *reductio ad impossibile*.<sup>i</sup>

Is universal superior to particular demonstration?

<sup>a</sup> The negative, required in English, is dispensable in Aristotle's formula (cf.  $\delta \delta \epsilon \iota \dot{\upsilon} \pi \acute{\alpha} \rho \chi \epsilon \upsilon \nu$  in a 3 above). It was probably inserted in the text by a zealous corrector.

<sup>g</sup> Clearly not the third figure (which, as Ross points out, does not satisfy the conditions) but Cesare in the second—the only other mood which gives a universal negative conclusion.

<sup>h</sup> Not in the ordinary sense of the terms, because demonstration proper is not concerned with particular or singular propositions (the argument adduced and rejected below is unscientific); the distinction is between degrees of universality.

<sup>i</sup> See ch. xxvi.

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20 Δόξειε μὲν οὖν τάχ' ἂν τιςιν ὥδι σκοποῦσιν ἢ  
κατὰ μέρος εἶναι βελτίων. εἰ γὰρ καθ' ἣν μᾶλλον  
ἐπιστάμεθα ἀπόδειξιν βελτίων ἀπόδειξις (αὕτη γὰρ  
ἀρετὴ ἀποδείξεως), μᾶλλον δ' ἐπιστάμεθα ἕκαστον  
ὅταν αὐτὸ εἰδῶμεν καθ' αὐτὸ ἢ ὅταν κατ' ἄλλο (οἶον  
25 τὸν μουσικὸν Κορίσκον ὅταν ὅτι ὁ Κορίσκος μου-  
σικὸς ἢ ὅταν ὅτι ἄνθρωπος<sup>1</sup> μουσικός· ὁμοίως δὲ  
καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων), ἢ δὲ καθόλου ὅτι ἄλλο, οὐχ  
ὅτι αὐτὸ τετύχηκεν ἐπιδείκνυσιν (οἶον ὅτι τὸ ἰσο-  
σκελὲς οὐχ ὅτι ἰσοσκελὲς ἀλλ' ὅτι τρίγωνον), ἢ δὲ  
κατὰ μέρος ὅτι αὐτό· εἰ δὴ βελτίων μὲν ἢ καθ' αὐτό,  
30 τοιαύτη δ' ἢ κατὰ μέρος τῆς καθόλου μᾶλλον, καὶ  
βελτίων ἂν ἢ κατὰ μέρος ἀπόδειξις εἴη. ἔτι εἰ τὸ  
μὲν καθόλου μὴ ἐστὶ τι παρὰ τὰ καθ' ἕκαστα, ἢ δ'  
ἀπόδειξις δόξαν ἐμποιεῖ εἶναί τι τοῦτο καθ' ὃ ἀπο-  
δείκνυσιν, καὶ τινα φύσιν ὑπάρχειν ἐν τοῖς οὖσι ταύ-  
την, οἶον τριγώνου παρὰ τὰ τινὰ καὶ σχήματος παρὰ  
35 τὰ τινὰ καὶ ἀριθμοῦ παρὰ τοὺς τινὰς ἀριθμούς,  
βελτίων δ' ἢ περὶ ὄντος ἢ μὴ ὄντος καὶ δι' ἣν μὴ  
ἀπατηθήσεται ἢ δι' ἣν, ἔστι δ' ἢ μὲν καθόλου τοι-  
αύτη (προϊόντες γὰρ δεικνύουσιν, ὥσπερ περὶ τοῦ ἀνά

<sup>1</sup> ἄνθρωπος Ross.

<sup>a</sup> Of Scepsis in Mysia; a friend whose name Aristotle often uses in illustrative examples. The epithet μουσικός is probably used with its wider meaning.

<sup>b</sup> Probably either Academic mathematicians or actual disciples of Eudoxus, who discovered the general theory of proportion.

Some people, looking at the question in the following way, might suppose that particular demonstration is superior. (1) If the superior method of demonstration is that by which we gain more knowledge (since this is the distinctive merit of demonstration), and we have more knowledge of an individual thing when we recognize it in virtue of itself than when we do so in virtue of something else (as, *e.g.*, we have more knowledge of "cultured Coriscus" <sup>a</sup> when we know that Coriscus is cultured than when we only know that man is cultured; and similarly in all other cases); and whereas universal demonstration informs us that something else, not that the particular thing, has a given attribute—*e.g.*, does not tell us that an isosceles triangle has a given attribute because it is isosceles but because it is a triangle—, particular demonstration informs us that the particular thing has it;—if, then, the better demonstration is that which informs us of something in virtue of itself, and particular is more of this nature than universal demonstration, then particular will also be superior to universal demonstration. (2) Further, if the universal does not exist apart from particulars, and demonstration produces in us a belief that there is something of this nature in virtue of which the demonstration proceeds, and that this inheres as a definite characteristic in things (*e.g.*, the characteristics triangle, figure and number apart from particular triangles, figures and numbers); and if the demonstration which treats of the existent and is infallible is superior to that which treats of the non-existent and is fallible; and if universal demonstration is of the latter kind (since it is by proceeding in this way that they <sup>b</sup> attempt proofs like that which

Arguments  
against uni-  
versal de-  
monstra-  
tion.

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λόγον, οἶον ὅτι ὁ ἂν ἢ τι τοιοῦτον ἔσται ἀνὰ λόγον,  
ὁ οὔτε γραμμὴ οὔτ' ἀριθμὸς οὔτε στερεὸν οὔτ' ἐπί-

85 b

πεδον, ἀλλὰ παρὰ ταῦτά τι).—εἰ οὖν καθόλου μὲν  
μᾶλλον αὕτη, περὶ ὄντος δ' ἦττον τῆς κατὰ μέρος  
καὶ ἐμποιεῖ δόξαν ψευδῇ, χείρων ἂν εἴη ἢ καθόλου  
τῆς κατὰ μέρος.

\*Ἡ πρῶτον μὲν οὐδὲν μᾶλλον ἐπὶ τοῦ καθόλου ἢ  
5 τοῦ κατὰ μέρος ἄτερος λόγος ἐστίν; εἰ γὰρ τὸ δυσὶν  
ὀρθαῖς ὑπάρχει μὴ ἢ ἰσοσκελὲς ἀλλ' ἢ τρίγωνον, ὁ  
εἰδὼς ὅτι ἰσοσκελὲς ἦττον οἶδεν ἢ αὐτὸ ἢ ὁ εἰδὼς  
ὅτι τρίγωνον. ὅλως τε, εἰ μὲν μὴ ὄντος ἢ τρίγωνον  
εἶτα δείκνυσιν, οὐκ ἂν εἴη ἀπόδειξις, εἰ δὲ ὄντος, ὁ  
εἰδὼς ἕκαστον ἢ ἕκαστον ὑπάρχει μᾶλλον οἶδεν. εἰ  
10 δὴ τὸ τρίγωνον ἐπὶ πλεόν ἐστί, καὶ ὁ αὐτὸς λόγος,  
καὶ μὴ καθ' ὁμωνυμίαν τὸ τρίγωνον, καὶ ὑπάρχει  
παντὶ τριγώνῳ τὸ δύο, οὐκ ἂν τὸ τρίγωνον ἢ ἰσο-  
σκελὲς, ἀλλὰ τὸ ἰσοσκελὲς ἢ τρίγωνον, ἔχοι τοιαύτας  
τὰς γωνίας. ὥστε ὁ καθόλου εἰδὼς μᾶλλον οἶδεν ἢ  
15 ὑπάρχει ἢ ὁ κατὰ μέρος. βελτίων ἄρα ἢ καθόλου  
τῆς κατὰ μέρος. ἔτι εἰ μὲν εἴη τις λόγος εἰς καὶ μὴ  
ὁμωνυμία τὸ καθόλου, εἴη τ'<sup>1</sup> ἂν οὐδὲν ἦττον ἐνίων

<sup>1</sup> τ' om. n.



asserts that a proportional is anything which has a certain definite characteristic, and that it is neither a line nor a number nor a solid nor a plane, but something distinct from these)—, if, then, this kind of proof is closer to universal demonstration, and treats less of the existent than particular demonstration, and produces a false opinion, universal will be inferior to particular demonstration.

In point of fact, however, (1) the first argument applies no more to universal than to particular demonstration. If the attribute of having the sum of its interior angles equal to two right angles belongs to a figure not *qua* isosceles but *qua* triangle, the man who knows that the figure possesses this attribute because it is isosceles knows less of the essential reason for the fact than he who knows that it is so because the figure is a triangle. And in general if, when an attribute does not belong to a given subject *qua* triangle, the attribute is proved of that subject, the proof cannot amount to demonstration; but if it does apply to the subject (*qua* triangle), then he has the greater knowledge who knows that a given attribute belongs to a given subject as such. Thus if "triangle" is the wider term, and has an invariable meaning, the term "triangle" not being equivocal; and if the attribute of having the sum of its interior angles equal to two right angles applies to every triangle, then it is the isosceles *qua* triangle, and not the triangle *qua* isosceles, that will possess such angles. Thus the man who knows the universal has more knowledge than he who knows the particular. Therefore universal is superior to particular demonstration. (2) If the meaning is invariable and the universal term is not merely equivocal, it will be not

Refutation  
of the  
above.

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τῶν κατὰ μέρος, ἀλλὰ καὶ μᾶλλον, ὅσω τὰ ἀφθαρτα  
 ἐν ἐκείνοις ἐστί, τὰ δὲ κατὰ μέρος φθαρτὰ μᾶλλον,  
 ἔτι τε οὐδεμία ἀνάγκη ὑπολαμβάνειν τι εἶναι τοῦτο  
 20 παρὰ ταῦτα ὅτι ἐν δηλοῖ, οὐδὲν μᾶλλον ἢ ἐπὶ τῶν  
 ἄλλων ὅσα μὴ τὶ σημαίνει ἀλλ' ἢ ποιὸν ἢ πρὸς τι  
 ἢ ποιεῖν. εἰ δὲ ἄρα, οὐχ ἢ ἀπόδειξις αἰτία ἀλλ' ὁ  
 ἀκούων.

Ἔτι εἰ ἢ ἀπόδειξις μὲν ἐστὶ συλλογισμὸς δεικτι-  
 κὸς αἰτίας καὶ τοῦ διὰ τί, τὸ καθόλου δ' αἰτιώτερον  
 25 (ὅ γὰρ καθ' αὐτὸ ὑπάρχει τι, τοῦτο αὐτὸ αὐτῷ  
 αἴτιον· τὸ δὲ καθόλου πρῶτον· αἴτιον ἄρα τὸ καθό-  
 λου)· ὥστε καὶ ἢ ἀπόδειξις βελτίων· μᾶλλον γὰρ τοῦ  
 αἰτίου καὶ τοῦ διὰ τί ἐστίν.

Ἔτι μέχρι τούτου ζητοῦμεν τὸ διὰ τί, καὶ τότε  
 οἰόμεθα εἰδέναι ὅταν μὴ ἢ ὅτι τι ἄλλο τοῦτο ἢ  
 30 γιγνόμενον ἢ ὄν· τέλος γὰρ καὶ πέρας τὸ ἔσχατον  
 ἤδη οὕτως ἐστίν. οἶον τίνος ἔνεκα ἦλθεν; ὅπως  
 λάβη τὰργύριον, τοῦτο δ' ὅπως ἀποδῶ ὁ ὄφειλε,  
 τοῦτο δ' ὅπως μὴ ἀδικήσῃ· καὶ οὕτως ἰόντες, ὅταν  
 μηκέτι δι' ἄλλο μηδ' ἄλλου ἔνεκα, διὰ τοῦτο ὡς τέ-  
 λος φαμὲν ἐλθεῖν καὶ εἶναι καὶ γίνεσθαι, καὶ τότε  
 35 εἰδέναι μάλιστα διὰ τί ἦλθεν. εἰ δὲ ὁμοίως ἔχει ἐπὶ  
 πασῶν τῶν αἰτιῶν καὶ τῶν διὰ τί, ἐπὶ δὲ τῶν ὅσα

<sup>a</sup> Genera and species being (for Aristotle at least) permanent types.

<sup>b</sup> In the sense that the subject of a (commensurately) universal attribute is the first subject to which it can be shown to apply: 73 b 32.

less but more really existent than some of the particulars, inasmuch as universals include imperishable things,<sup>a</sup> whereas particulars tend rather to be perishable. Further, there is no need to assume that the universal is some one entity apart from the particulars simply because it has a single denotation ; no more than in the case of the other categories which denote not substance but quality or relation or activity. If this assumption is made, the fault lies not in the demonstration but in the hearer.

(3) There is also the argument that demonstration is a syllogism proving the cause or reasoned fact, and the universal is more of the nature of a cause (for a subject which possesses an attribute *per se* is itself the cause of its own possession of that attribute ; and the universal is primary<sup>b</sup> ; therefore the universal is the cause). Therefore universal demonstration is superior, because it more properly proves the cause or reasoned fact. Further positive arguments.

(4) Again, we cease our inquiry for the reason and assume that we know it when we reach a fact whose existence or coming into existence does not depend upon any other fact ; for the last stage of an inquiry by this method is *ipso facto* the end and limit. *E.g.*, why did X come ? To get the money ; and this was in order to repay what he owed, and this again in order not to do wrong. When, as we proceed in this way, we reach a cause which neither depends upon anything else nor has anything else as its object, we say that this is the end for which the man came, or exists, or comes into being ; it is then that we say that we understand most completely *why* the man came. If, then, the same principle applies to all causes and reasoned facts, and if our knowledge of

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αἷτια οὕτως ὥς οὐ ἔνεκα οὕτως ἴσμεν μάλιστα, καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων ἄρα τότε μάλιστα ἴσμεν ὅταν μηκέτι ὑπάρχη τοῦτο ὅτι ἄλλο. ὅταν μὲν οὖν γινώσκωμεν ὅτι τέτταρσιν αἱ ἕξω ἴσαι, ὅτι ἰσοσκελές, ἔτι

86 a λείπεται διὰ τί τὸ ἰσοσκελές, ὅτι τρίγωνον, καὶ τοῦτο, ὅτι σχῆμα εὐθύγραμμον. εἰ δὲ τοῦτο μηκέτι διότι ἄλλο, τότε μάλιστα ἴσμεν. καὶ καθόλου δὲ τότε· ἢ καθόλου ἄρα βελτίων.

Ἔτι ὅσω ἂν μᾶλλον κατὰ μέρος ἦ, εἰς τὰ ἄπειρα  
5 ἐμπίπτει, ἢ δὲ καθόλου εἰς τὸ ἀπλοῦν καὶ τὸ πέρασ.  
ἔστι δ', ἢ μὲν ἄπειρά, οὐκ ἐπιστητά, ἢ δὲ πε-  
πέρανται, ἐπιστητά. ἢ ἄρα καθόλου, μᾶλλον ἐπι-  
στητὰ ἢ κατὰ μέρος. ἀποδεικτὰ ἄρα μᾶλλον τὰ  
καθόλου. τῶν δὲ ἀποδεικτῶν μᾶλλον μᾶλλον ἀπό-  
δειξις· ἅμα γὰρ μᾶλλον τὰ πρὸς τι. βελτίων ἄρα ἢ  
10 καθόλου, ἐπείπερ καὶ μᾶλλον ἀπόδειξις.

Ἔτι εἰ<sup>1</sup> αἰρέτωτέρα καθ' ἣν τοῦτο καὶ ἄλλο ἢ καθ'  
ἣν τοῦτο μόνον οἶδεν· ὁ δὲ τὴν καθόλου ἔχων οἶδε  
καὶ τὸ κατὰ μέρος, οὗτος δὲ τὸ καθόλου οὐκ οἶδεν·  
ὥστε καὶ οὕτως αἰρέτωτέρα εἴη.

Ἔτι δὲ ὧδε. τὸ γὰρ καθόλου μᾶλλον δεικνύναι

<sup>1</sup> εἰ om. DM.



all final causes is most complete under the conditions which we have just described, then in all other cases too our knowledge is most complete when we reach a fact which does not depend further upon any other fact. So when we recognize that the sum of the exterior angles of a figure is equal to four right angles, because the figure is isosceles, there still remains the reason why the figure is isosceles, *viz.*, that it is a triangle, and this because it is a right-lined figure. If this reason depends upon nothing else, our knowledge is now complete. Moreover our knowledge is now universal ; and therefore universal knowledge is superior.

(5) Again, the more particular causes are, the more they tend to form an infinite regress, whereas universal demonstration tends towards the simple and finite ; and causes *qua* infinite are not knowable, whereas *qua* finite they are knowable. Hence causes are more knowable *qua* universal than *qua* particular ; and therefore universal causes are more demonstrable. But the demonstration of things which are more demonstrable is more truly demonstration ; for correlatives vary simultaneously in degree. Hence universal demonstration is superior, inasmuch as it is more truly demonstration.

(6) Again, that kind of demonstration by which one knows a given fact *and* another fact as well is preferable to that by which one knows only the given fact. But he who has universal knowledge knows the particular cause as well, whereas the man who has only particular knowledge does not know the universal cause. Hence on this ground also universal demonstration will be preferable.

(7) Again, there is the following argument. Proof

15 ἐστὶ τὸ διὰ μέσου δεικνύναι ἐγγυτέρω ὄντος τῆς ἀρχῆς. ἐγγυτάτῳ δὲ τὸ ἄμεσον· τοῦτο δ' ἀρχή. εἰ οὖν ἢ ἐξ ἀρχῆς τῆς μὴ ἐξ ἀρχῆς, ἢ μᾶλλον ἐξ ἀρχῆς τῆς ἡττον ἀκριβεστέρα ἀποδείξαις. ἔστι δὲ τοιαύτη ἢ καθόλου μᾶλλον· κρείττων ἄρ' ἂν εἴη ἢ καθόλου. οἷον εἰ ἔδει ἀποδείξαι τὸ Α κατὰ τοῦ Δ·  
20 μέσα τὰ ἐφ' ὧν ΒΓ· ἀνωτέρω δὴ τὸ Β, ὥστε ἢ διὰ τούτου καθόλου μᾶλλον.

Ἀλλὰ τῶν μὲν εἰρημένων ἓν ἄλλο λογικὰ ἔστι· μάλιστα δὲ δηλὸν ὅτι ἢ καθόλου κυριώτερα ὅτι τῶν προτάσεων τὴν μὲν προτέραν ἔχοντες ἴσμεν πως  
25 καὶ τὴν ὑστέραν καὶ ἔχομεν δυνάμει, οἷον εἴ τις οἶδεν ὅτι πᾶν τρίγωνον δυσὶν ὀρθαῖς, οἶδέ πως καὶ τὸ ἰσοσκελὲς ὅτι δύο ὀρθαῖς, δυνάμει, καὶ εἰ μὴ οἶδε τὸ ἰσοσκελὲς ὅτι τρίγωνον· ὁ δὲ ταύτην ἔχων τὴν πρότασιν τὸ καθόλου οὐδαμῶς οἶδεν, οὔτε δυνάμει οὔτ' ἐνεργείᾳ. καὶ ἢ μὲν καθόλου νοητή, ἢ δὲ  
30 κατὰ μέρος εἰς αἰσθησὶν τελευτᾷ.

XXV. Ὅτι μὲν οὖν ἢ καθόλου βελτίων τῆς κατὰ μέρος, τοσαῦθ' ἡμῖν εἰρήσθω· ὅτι δ' ἢ δεικτική τῆς

<sup>a</sup> The implication is that (6), which Aristotle now proceeds to expand, is (or can be made) truly scientific.

<sup>b</sup> Not a major and a minor, but the two premisses mentioned in the following lines.

<sup>c</sup> When it reaches individuals, which are perceptible rather than intelligible.

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of the more universal fact consists in proving by a middle which is nearer to the first principle. Now that which is nearest to the first principle is the immediate premiss, *i.e.*, the first principle itself. If, then, demonstration from the first principle is more accurate than demonstration which is not from the first principle, that demonstration which is more nearly from the first principle is more accurate than that which is less nearly from it. Now it is universal demonstration which is more truly of this nature; and therefore universal demonstration is superior. *E.g.*, suppose that it is required to demonstrate A of D, the middle terms being B and C. B is the *higher* term, and so the demonstration by means of B is the more universal.

Some of the foregoing arguments, however, are merely dialectical.<sup>a</sup> The clearest indication that universal demonstration is more authoritative is that when we comprehend the former of the two premisses <sup>b</sup> we have knowledge in a sense of the latter as well, and comprehend it potentially. *E.g.*, if anyone knows that every triangle has the sum of its interior angles equal to two right angles, he knows in a sense also (*viz.*, potentially) that the sum of the interior angles of an isosceles triangle is equal to two right angles, even if he does not know that the isosceles is a triangle. But the man who comprehends the latter premiss does not in any sense know the universal fact, neither potentially nor actually. Moreover universal demonstration is intelligible, whereas particular demonstration terminates in sense perception.<sup>c</sup>

Final proofs that universal demonstration is superior.

XXV. The foregoing account may suffice to show that universal is superior to particular demonstration.

Affirmative is superior to negative

86 a

στερητικῆς, ἐντεῦθεν δῆλον. ἔστω γὰρ αὕτη ἡ ἀπόδειξις βελτίων τῶν ἄλλων τῶν αὐτῶν ὑπαρχόντων, ἡ ἐξ ἐλαττόνων αἰτημάτων ἢ ὑποθέσεων ἢ προτάσεων. εἰ γὰρ γνώριμοι ὁμοίως, τὸ θάπτον γινῶναι διὰ τούτων ὑπάρξει· τοῦτο δ' αἰρετώτερον. λόγος δὲ τῆς προτάσεως, ὅτι βελτίων ἢ ἐξ ἐλαττόνων, καθόλου ὅδε<sup>1</sup>. εἰ γὰρ ὁμοίως εἴη τὸ γνώριμα εἶναι τὰ μέσα, τὰ δὲ πρότερα γνωριμώτερα, ἔστω

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ἡ μὲν διὰ μέσων ἀπόδειξις τῶν ΒΓΔ ὅτι τὸ Α τῷ Ε ὑπάρχει, ἡ δὲ διὰ τῶν ΖΗ ὅτι τὸ Α τῷ Ε. ὁμοίως δὴ<sup>2</sup> ἔχει τὸ ὅτι τὸ Α τῷ Δ ὑπάρχει καὶ τὸ Α τῷ Ε. τὸ δ' ὅτι τὸ Α τῷ Δ πρότερον καὶ γνωριμώτερον ἢ ὅτι τὸ Α τῷ Ε. διὰ γὰρ τούτου ἐκείνο ἀποδείκνυται, πιστότερον δὲ τὸ δι' οὗ. καὶ ἡ διὰ τῶν ἐλαττόνων ἄρα ἀπόδειξις βελτίων τῶν ἄλλων τῶν αὐτῶν ὑπαρχόντων. ἀμφοτέραι μὲν οὖν διὰ τε ὄρων τριῶν καὶ προτάσεων δύο δείκνυνται, ἀλλ' ἡ μὲν εἶναι τι λαμβάνει, ἡ δὲ καὶ εἶναι καὶ μὴ εἶναι τι· διὰ πλειόνων ἄρα, ὥστε χείρων.

10 Ἔτι ἐπειδὴ δέδεικται ὅτι ἀδύνατον ἀμφοτέρων οὐσῶν στερητικῶν τῶν προτάσεων γενέσθαι συλλογισμόν, ἀλλὰ τὴν μὲν δεῖ τοιαύτην εἶναι, τὴν δ'

<sup>1</sup> ὅδε Dnp : ὡδε Waitz : δέ codd. plerique.

<sup>2</sup> δὴ np : δέ.

<sup>a</sup> i.e., more universal.

<sup>b</sup> Presumably because it is proved by the same number of middle terms.

<sup>c</sup> The argument is blatantly dialectical, since it turns upon an equivocation. The premisses of a negative syllogism are the same in *number* as those of an affirmative one; they are "more" only in *kind*.

<sup>d</sup> *An. Pr.* I. vii.



That affirmative is superior to negative demonstration will be clear from the following argument. (1) It may be assumed that, given the same conditions, that form of demonstration is superior to the rest which depends upon fewer postulates or hypotheses or premisses ; for supposing that they are equally well known, when there are fewer of them knowledge will be more quickly attained, and this result is to be preferred. The argument that demonstration from fewer premisses is superior may be stated universally as follows. Supposing that in both cases alike the middle terms are known, and that middle terms are better known in proportion as they are prior,<sup>a</sup> let us assume demonstration that A applies to E in one case by means of the middle terms B, C and D, and in another by means of F and G. Then the proposition that A applies to D is equally evident <sup>b</sup> with the proposition (in the second case) that A applies to E. But the proposition that A applies to D is prior and more knowable than the proposition (in the first case) that A applies to E ; for the latter is proved by the former, and the means of proof is more certain than the thing proved. Therefore the demonstration which proceeds from fewer premisses is superior to any other conducted under the same conditions. Now both affirmative and negative demonstration are proved by three terms and two premisses, but whereas the former assumes that something is so, the latter assumes both that something is and that something is not so. Hence it proceeds from more <sup>c</sup> premisses, and is therefore inferior.

(2) It has already been proved <sup>d</sup> that there can be no syllogism when both premisses are negative ; if one is of this kind, the other must make an affirmative

demonstration.  
First argument.

Second argument.

ὅτι ὑπάρχει, ἔτι πρὸς τούτῳ δεῖ τόδε λαβεῖν. τὰς  
 μὲν γὰρ κατηγορικὰς αὐξανομένης τῆς ἀποδείξεως  
 ἀναγκαῖον γίνεσθαι πλείους, τὰς δὲ στερητικὰς  
 15 ἀδύνατον πλείους εἶναι μιᾶς ἐν ἅπαντι συλλογισμῷ.  
 ἔστω γὰρ μηδενὶ ὑπάρχον τὸ Α ἐφ' ὅσων τὸ Β,  
 τῷ δὲ Γ ὑπάρχον παντὶ τὸ Β. ἂν δὴ δέη πάλιν  
 αὔξειν ἀμφοτέρας τὰς προτάσεις, μέσον ἐμβλητέον.  
 τοῦ μὲν ΑΒ ἔστω τὸ Δ, τοῦ δὲ ΒΓ τὸ Ε. τὸ μὲν  
 20 δὴ Ε φανερόν ὅτι κατηγορικόν, τὸ δὲ Δ τοῦ μὲν  
 Β κατηγορικόν, πρὸς δὲ τὸ Α ὡς στερητικόν κείμεναι.  
 τὸ μὲν γὰρ Δ παντὸς τοῦ Β, τὸ δὲ Α οὐδενὶ δεῖ τῶν  
 Δ ὑπάρχειν. γίνεται οὖν μία στερητικὴ πρότασις  
 ἢ τὸ ΑΔ. ὁ δ' αὐτὸς τρόπος καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἐτέρων  
 συλλογισμῶν. αἰεὶ γὰρ τὸ μέσον τῶν κατηγορικῶν  
 25 ὄρων κατηγορικόν ἐπ' ἀμφοτέρα· τοῦ δὲ στερητικοῦ  
 ἐπὶ θάτερα στερητικόν ἀναγκαῖον εἶναι, ὥστε αὕτη  
 μία τοιαύτη γίνεται πρότασις, αἱ δ' ἄλλαι κατη-  
 γορικάι. εἰ δὴ γνωριμώτερον δι' οὗ δείκνυται καὶ  
 πιστότερον, δείκνυται δ' ἢ μὲν στερητικὴ διὰ τῆς  
 κατηγορικῆς, αὕτη δὲ δι' ἐκείνης οὐ δείκνυται,  
 30 προτέρα καὶ γνωριμωτέρα οὔσα καὶ πιστοτέρα βελ-  
 τίων ἂν εἴη.

Ἔτι εἰ ἀρχὴ συλλογισμοῦ ἢ καθόλου πρότασις  
 ἄμεσος, ἔστι δ' ἐν μὲν τῇ δεικτικῇ καταφατικῇ ἐν  
 δὲ τῇ στερητικῇ ἀποφατικῇ ἢ καθόλου πρότασις, ἢ  
 δὲ καταφατικῇ τῆς ἀποφατικῆς προτέρα καὶ γνω-  
 ριμωτέρα (διὰ γὰρ τὴν κατάφασιν ἢ ἀπόφασιν  
 35 γνώριμος, καὶ προτέρα ἢ κατάφασις, ὥσπερ καὶ τὸ  
 εἶναι τοῦ μὴ εἶναι)· ὥστε βελτίων ἢ ἀρχὴ τῆς

statement. Now in addition to this we must grasp the following fact. As the demonstration is expanded,<sup>a</sup> the affirmative premisses must increase in number, but there cannot be more than one negative premiss in any syllogism. Let us suppose that A applies to no instances of B, and that B applies to all C. Then if it is further required to expand both these premisses, a middle term must be interpolated in them. Let D be the middle of AB, and E of BC. Then obviously E is affirmative, but D, though related affirmatively to B, is related negatively to A; for D must be predicated of all B, but A must apply to no D. Thus we get one negative premiss, *viz.*, AD. The same holds good of all other syllogisms. Where the terms are affirmative, the middle is always related affirmatively to both the others; but in a negative syllogism the middle term must be related negatively to one of the others, and therefore this is the only premiss of this kind that we obtain; the rest are affirmative. Now if the means of proof is more knowable and more certain than the thing proved, and negative is proved by affirmative demonstration, but not affirmative by negative, the affirmative, being prior and more knowable and more certain, must be superior.

(3) Again, if the starting-point of a syllogism is the universal immediate premiss and if in affirmative proof the universal premiss is affirmative and in negative proof negative, and if the affirmative is prior to and more knowable than the negative premiss (for it is through the affirmation that the negation becomes known, and the affirmation is prior to the negation, just as being is prior to not-being),—then the starting-point of the affirmative is superior to that of

Third argument.

<sup>a</sup> By the interpolation of middle terms.

86 b

δεικτικῆς ἢ τῆς στερητικῆς· ἡ δὲ βελτίοσιν ἀρχαῖς χρωμένῃ βελτίων.

Ἔτι ἀρχοειδεστέρα· ἄνευ γὰρ τῆς δεικνουούσης οὐκ ἔστιν ἡ στερητική.

87 a

XXVI. Ἐπεὶ δ' ἡ κατηγορικὴ τῆς στερητικῆς βελτίων, δῆλον ὅτι καὶ τῆς εἰς τὸ ἀδύνατον ἀγούσης.

δεῖ δ' εἰδέναι τίς ἡ διαφορὰ αὐτῶν. ἔστω δὲ τὸ Α μῆδενὶ ὑπάρχον τῷ Β, τῷ δὲ Γ τὸ Β παντί· ἀνάγκη

5 δὲ τῷ Γ μῆδενὶ ὑπάρχειν τὸ Α. οὕτω μὲν οὖν ληφθέντων δεικτικὴ ἡ στερητικὴ ἂν εἴη ἀπόδειξις ὅτι τὸ Α τῷ Γ οὐχ ὑπάρχει. ἡ δ' εἰς τὸ ἀδύνατον ᾧδ' ἔχει. εἰ δέοι δείξαι ὅτι τὸ Α τῷ Β οὐχ ὑπάρχει, ληπτέον ὑπάρχειν, καὶ τὸ Β τῷ Γ, ὥστε συμβαίνει τὸ Α τῷ Γ ὑπάρχειν. τοῦτο δ' ἔστω γνώριμον καὶ

10 ὁμολογούμενον ὅτι ἀδύνατον. οὐκ ἄρα οἷόν τε τὸ Α τῷ Β ὑπάρχειν. εἰ οὖν τὸ Β τῷ Γ ὁμολογεῖται ὑπάρχειν, τὸ Α τῷ Β ἀδύνατον ὑπάρχειν. οἱ μὲν οὖν ὅροι ὁμοίως τάττονται, διαφέρει δὲ τὸ ὅποτέρα ἂν ᾗ γνωριμωτέρα ἢ πρότασις ἡ στερητικὴ, πότερον ὅτι τὸ Α τῷ Β οὐχ ὑπάρχει ἢ ὅτι τὸ Α τῷ

15 Γ. ὅταν μὲν οὖν ᾗ τὸ συμπέρασμα γνωριμώτερον ὅτι οὐκ ἔστιν, ἡ εἰς τὸ ἀδύνατον γίγνεται ἀπόδειξις, ὅταν δ' ἡ ἐν τῷ συλλογισμῷ, ἡ ἀποδεικτική. φύσει

<sup>a</sup> Here again there seems to be an equivocation, though Aristotle may not have been conscious of it. In the previous sentence ἀρχή has been translated "starting-point" because that is all that it seems to be intended to mean; but here it seems rather to mean "logical principle." The argument which follows tends to confirm this view.

<sup>b</sup> i.e., an affirmative premiss.



the negative demonstration. But the demonstration which uses superior first principles <sup>a</sup> is itself superior.

(4) Again, affirmative demonstration is more of the nature of a first principle ; for negative demonstration is impossible without another (affirmative) demonstration <sup>b</sup> to prove it. Fourth argument.

XXVI. Since affirmative demonstration is superior to negative, clearly it is also superior to *reductio ad impossibile*. We must, however, understand what is the difference between them.<sup>c</sup> Let us suppose that A applies to no B, but that B applies to all C ; then A must apply to no C. When the terms are taken in this way the negative demonstration that A does not apply to C will be ostensive. But *reductio ad impossibile* takes the following form. Supposing that it is required to prove that A does not apply <sup>d</sup> to B, we must assume that it does apply, and that B applies to C, so that it follows that A applies to C. Let it be known and admitted that this is impossible. Then A cannot apply to B. Thus if B is admitted to apply to C, A cannot apply to B.<sup>e</sup> The terms, then, are arranged in the same way ; the difference depends upon this : in which form the negative premiss is better known, whether as the statement " A does not apply to B " or " A does not apply to C." Thus when it is the negative statement in the conclusion that is better known, we get demonstration by *reductio ad impossibile* ; when it is one of the premisses of the syllogism, we get ostensive demonstration. Ostensive demonstration is superior to *reductio ad impossibile*.

<sup>a</sup> Sc., negative ostensive proof and *reductio ad impossibile*.

<sup>b</sup> In this example Aristotle ignores quantity as being complicative and unnecessary for his argument.

<sup>c</sup> Because the conjunction of two true premisses cannot give a false conclusion : *An. Pr.* II. 53 b 12-25.

87 a

δὲ προτέρα ἢ ὅτι τὸ Α τῷ Β ἢ ὅτι τὸ Α τῷ Γ.  
 πρότερα γάρ ἐστι τοῦ συμπεράσματος ἐξ ὧν τὸ  
 συμπέρασμα· ἔστι δὲ τὸ μὲν Α τῷ Γ μὴ ὑπάρχειν  
 20 συμπέρασμα, τὸ δὲ Α τῷ Β ἐξ οὗ τὸ συμπέρασμα.  
 οὐ γὰρ εἰ συμβαίνει ἀναιρεῖσθαι τι, τοῦτο συμπέ-  
 ρασμά ἐστιν, ἐκεῖνα δὲ ἐξ ὧν, ἀλλὰ τὸ μὲν ἐξ οὗ  
 συλλογισμός ἐστίν ὃ ἂν οὕτως ἔχη ὥστε ἢ ὅλον  
 πρὸς μέρος ἢ μέρος πρὸς ὅλον ἔχειν, αἱ δὲ τὸ ΑΓ  
 25 καὶ ΒΓ<sup>1</sup> προτάσεις οὐκ ἔχουσιν οὕτω πρὸς ἀλλήλας.  
 εἰ οὖν ἢ ἐκ γνῶριμωτέρων καὶ προτέρων κρείττων,  
 εἰσὶ δ' ἀμφοτέραι ἐκ τοῦ μὴ εἶναί τι πισταί, ἀλλ' ἢ  
 μὲν ἐκ προτέρου ἢ δ' ἐξ ὑστέρου, βελτίων ἀπλῶς  
 ἂν εἴη τῆς εἰς τὸ ἀδύνατον ἢ στερητικῇ ἀπόδειξις,  
 ὥστε καὶ ἢ ταύτης βελτίων ἢ κατηγορικῇ δῆλον  
 30 ὅτι καὶ τῆς εἰς τὸ ἀδύνατόν ἐστι βελτίων.

XXVII. Ἀκριβεστέρα δ' ἐπιστήμη ἐπιστήμης καὶ  
 προτέρα ἢ τε τοῦ ὅτι καὶ διότι ἢ αὐτή, ἀλλὰ μὴ  
 χωρὶς τοῦ ὅτι τῆς τοῦ διότι, καὶ ἢ μὴ καθ' ὑποκει-  
 μένου τῆς καθ' ὑποκειμένου, οἷον ἀριθμητικῇ ἀρ-  
 35 μονικῇ, καὶ ἢ ἐξ ἐλαττόνων τῆς ἐκ προσθέσεως,  
 οἷον γεωμετρίας ἀριθμητικῇ. λέγω δ' ἐκ προσθέ-  
 152

But the statement "A does not apply to B" is prior in nature to "A does not apply to C"; for the premisses from which the conclusion is drawn are prior to the conclusion, and the statement "A does not apply to C" is the conclusion, while "A does not apply to B" is one of the premisses from which the conclusion is drawn. For if we obtain a destructive result,<sup>a</sup> this result is not a conclusion, nor are the statements from which it is drawn premisses, in the strict sense. The statements from which a syllogism follows are premisses related to one another as whole to part or part to whole; and the premisses AC and BC are not so related to one another. Therefore if that demonstration is superior which proceeds from better known and prior premisses, and both these kinds of demonstration depend upon negative statements, of which one is prior and the other posterior, then negative demonstration will be absolutely superior to *reductio ad impossibile*; and therefore affirmative demonstration, being superior to negative, will *a fortiori* also be superior to demonstration by *reductio ad impossibile*.

XXVII. Knowledge at the same time of the fact and of the reasoned fact, as contrasted with knowledge of the former without the latter, is more accurate and prior. So again is knowledge of objects which do not inhere in a substrate as contrasted with that of objects which do so inhere (*e.g.*, arithmetic and harmonics) and that which depends upon fewer factors as contrasted with that which uses additional factors (*e.g.*, arithmetic and geometry). What I mean by

Ranking of sciences according to their aims and subject-matter.

<sup>a</sup> Involving the disproof of a hypothesis.

<sup>1</sup> BF C<sup>2</sup>, Ross: AB.

87 a

σεως οἶον μονὰς οὐσία ἄθετος, στιγμὴ δὲ οὐσία θετός· ταύτην ἐκ προσθέσεως.

XXVIII. Μία δ' ἐπιστήμη ἐστὶν ἡ ἐνὸς γένους, ὅσα ἐκ τῶν πρώτων σύγκειται καὶ μέρη ἐστὶν ἡ  
 40 πάθη τούτων καθ' αὐτά. ἑτέρα δ' ἐπιστήμη ἐστὶν  
 87 b ἑτέρας, ὅσων αἱ ἀρχαὶ μήτ' ἐκ τῶν αὐτῶν μήθ' ἄτεραι<sup>1</sup> ἐκ τῶν ἑτέρων. τούτου δὲ σημεῖον ὅταν εἰς τὰ ἀναπόδεικτα ἔλθῃ· δεῖ γὰρ αὐτὰ ἐν τῷ αὐτῷ γένει εἶναι τοῖς ἀποδεδειγμένοις. σημεῖον δὲ καὶ τούτου ὅταν τὰ δεικνύμενα δι' αὐτῶν ἐν τῷ αὐτῷ γένει ὧσι καὶ συγγενῇ.

5 XXIX. Πλείους δ' ἀποδείξεις εἶναι τοῦ αὐτοῦ ἐγχωρεῖ οὐ μόνον ἐκ τῆς αὐτῆς συστοιχίας λαμβάνοντι μὴ τὸ συνεχὲς μέσον, οἶον τῶν AB τὸ Γ καὶ Δ καὶ Ζ, ἀλλὰ καὶ ἐξ ἑτέρας. οἶον ἔστω τὸ Α μεταβάλλειν, τὸ δ' ἐφ' ᾧ Δ κινεῖσθαι, τὸ δὲ Β ἡδεσθαι, καὶ πάλιν τὸ Η ἡρεμίζεσθαι. ἀληθὲς οὖν  
 10 καὶ τὸ Δ τοῦ Β καὶ τὸ Α τοῦ Δ κατηγορεῖν· ὁ γὰρ ἡδόμενος κινεῖται καὶ τὸ κινούμενον μεταβάλλει. πάλιν τὸ Α τοῦ Η καὶ τὸ Η τοῦ Β ἀληθὲς κατηγορεῖν· πᾶς γὰρ ὁ ἡδόμενος ἡρεμίζεται καὶ ὁ ἡρεμιζόμενος μεταβάλλει. ὥστε δι' ἑτέρων μέσων καὶ οὐκ ἐκ τῆς αὐτῆς συστοιχίας ὁ συλλογισμός. οὐ μὴν  
 15 ὥστε μηδέτερον κατὰ μηδετέρου λέγεσθαι τῶν μέσων· ἀνάγκη γὰρ τῷ αὐτῷ τινι ἄμφω ὑπάρχειν.

<sup>1</sup> ἄτεραι Philoponus (?), ci. Mure : ἑτεραι Bn : ἑτερα Ad.

<sup>a</sup> Not in the strict sense : cf. *Met.* XIII (M) ii.

<sup>b</sup> The species and their essential attributes.

<sup>c</sup> If one set of principles is derived from the other, they belong respectively to a lower and a higher branch of the same science.

<sup>a</sup> The ultimate truths or postulates.

<sup>e</sup> *Sc.*, with either or both of the extreme terms.



## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, I. XXVII-XXIX

additional factors is this: a unit is a substance <sup>a</sup> without position, but a point is a substance with position: I regard the latter as containing an additional factor.

XXVIII. A science is one if it is concerned with a single genus or class of objects which are composed of the primary elements of that genus and are parts of it or essential modifications of those parts.<sup>b</sup> One science is different from another if their principles do not belong to the same genus, or if the principles of the one are not derived from the principles of the other.<sup>c</sup> This is verified when one reaches the indemonstrables,<sup>d</sup> because these must be in the same genus as the things demonstrated. This again is verified when the conclusions proved by their means are in the same genus and cognate.

XXIX. It is possible to have more than one demonstration of the same conclusion, not only by selecting a middle term, not directly connected,<sup>e</sup> from the same series, *e.g.*, by choosing C or D or F as the middle term for AB, but also by choosing one from another series.<sup>f</sup> For example, A is change, D being moved, B pleasure and G relaxation. Then it is true both to predicate D of B and A of D; because if a man is pleased he is moved, and that which is moved changes. Again it is true to predicate A of G and G of B; because everyone who is pleased relaxes, and one who relaxes changes. Thus the conclusion can be drawn by means of different middle terms which do not belong to the same series. Of course the two middles must not exclude one another; both must apply to some of the same subject. We must

What makes a science one.

There may be more than one proof of the same conclusion.

<sup>f</sup> *i.e.*, another chain of reasoning. There can, however, be only one *scientific* demonstration of any given fact.

ἐπισκέψασθαι δὲ καὶ διὰ τῶν ἄλλων σχημάτων  
ὅσαχῶς ἐνδέχεται τοῦ αὐτοῦ γενέσθαι συλλογισμόν.

XXX. Τοῦ δ' ἀπὸ τύχης οὐκ ἔστιν ἐπιστήμη δι'  
20 ἀποδείξεως. οὔτε γὰρ ὡς ἀναγκαῖον οὔθ' ὡς ἐπὶ  
τὸ πολὺ τὸ ἀπὸ τύχης ἐστίν, ἀλλὰ τὸ παρὰ ταῦτα  
γιγνόμενον· ἢ δ' ἀπόδειξις θατέρου τούτων. πᾶς  
γὰρ συλλογισμὸς ἢ δι' ἀναγκαίων ἢ διὰ τῶν ὡς ἐπὶ  
τὸ πολὺ προτάσεων· καὶ εἰ μὲν αἱ προτάσεις ἀναγ-  
25 καῖαι, καὶ τὸ συμπέρασμα ἀναγκαῖον, εἰ δ' ὡς ἐπὶ  
τὸ πολὺ, καὶ τὸ συμπέρασμα τοιοῦτον. ὥστ' εἰ τὸ  
ἀπὸ τύχης μῆθ' ὡς ἐπὶ τὸ πολὺ μῆτ' ἀναγκαῖον,  
οὐκ ἂν εἶη αὐτοῦ ἀπόδειξις.

XXXI. Οὐδὲ δι' αἰσθήσεως ἔστιν ἐπίστασθαι. εἰ  
γὰρ καὶ ἔστιν ἡ αἴσθησις τοῦ τοιοῦδε καὶ μὴ τοῦδέ  
30 τινος, ἀλλ' αἰσθάνεσθαι γε ἀναγκαῖον τόδε τι καὶ  
πὺν καὶ νῦν. τὸ δὲ καθόλου καὶ ἐπὶ πᾶσιν ἀδύνατον  
αἰσθάνεσθαι· οὐ γὰρ τόδε οὐδὲ νῦν· οὐ γὰρ ἂν ἦν  
καθόλου· τὸ γὰρ αἰεὶ καὶ πανταχοῦ καθόλου φαμέν  
εἶναι. ἐπεὶ οὖν αἱ μὲν ἀποδείξεις καθόλου, ταῦτα  
δ' οὐκ ἔστιν αἰσθάνεσθαι, φανερόν ὅτι οὐδ' ἐπίστα-  
35 σθαι δι' αἰσθήσεως ἔστιν, ἀλλὰ δῆλον ὅτι καὶ εἰ  
ἦν αἰσθάνεσθαι τὸ τρίγωνον ὅτι δυσὶν ὀρθαῖς ἴσας  
ἔχει τὰς γωνίας, ἐζητοῦμεν ἂν ἀπόδειξιν καὶ οὐχ

<sup>a</sup> It is tempting to regard this observation as a sort of "marginal jotting" in Aristotle's lecture notes. The project is not carried out.

<sup>b</sup> For chance see *Physics* II. iv-vi, and cf. *Met.* 1064 b 32 ff.

<sup>c</sup> When we perceive a sensible object, what we perceive is, in one sense, a complex of sensible qualities (colour, shape, size, etc.) which constitute a recognizable type. But the

examine this point in the other figures to see in how many ways it is possible to draw the same inference.<sup>a</sup>

XXX. There can be no demonstrative knowledge of the fortuitous.<sup>b</sup> What happens by chance is neither a necessary nor a usual event, but something which happens in a different way from either; whereas demonstration is concerned with one or the other of them. Every syllogism proceeds through premisses which are either necessary or usual; if the premisses are necessary, the conclusion is necessary too; and if the premisses are usual, so is the conclusion. Hence if the fortuitous is neither usual nor necessary, there can be no demonstration of it.

There is no science of the fortuitous.

✓ XXXI. Scientific knowledge cannot be acquired by sense-perception. Even granting that perception is of the object as qualified, and not of a mere particular,<sup>c</sup> still what we perceive must be a particular thing at a particular place and time. On the other hand a universal term of general application cannot be perceived by the senses, because it is not a particular thing or at a given time; if it were, it would not be universal; for we describe as universal only that which obtains always and everywhere. Therefore since demonstrations are universal, and universals cannot be perceived by the senses, obviously knowledge cannot be acquired by sense-perception. Again it is obvious that even if it were possible to perceive by the senses that the sum of the angles of a triangle is equal to two right angles, we should still require a proof of this; we should not (as some<sup>d</sup> fact remains that the object perceived is only one particular instance of the type.

Sense-perception cannot give scientific knowledge,

<sup>a</sup> e.g., Protagoras—if Plato represents his meaning fairly (which is questionable) in *Theaetetus* 151 E. Cf. Diogenes Laertius ix. 51.

87 b

ὥσπερ φασί τινες ἡπιστάμεθα· αἰσθάνεσθαι μὲν γὰρ  
 ἀνάγκη καθ' ἕκαστον, ἡ δ' ἐπιστήμη τῷ<sup>1</sup> τὸ καθόλου  
 γνωρίζειν ἐστίν. διὸ καὶ εἰ ἐπὶ τῆς σελήνης ὄντες  
 40 ἐωρῶμεν ἀντιφράττουσαν τὴν γῆν, οὐκ ἂν ᾔδειμεν  
 88 a τὴν αἰτίαν τῆς ἐκλείψεως. ᾔσθανόμεθα γὰρ ἂν ὅτι  
 νῦν ἐκλείπει, καὶ οὐ διότι ὅλως· οὐ γὰρ ἦν τοῦ  
 καθόλου αἴσθησις. οὐ μὴν ἀλλ' ἐκ τοῦ θεωρεῖν  
 τοῦτο πολλάκις συμβαῖνον τὸ καθόλου ἂν θηρεύ-  
 σαντες ἀπόδειξιν εἶχομεν· ἐκ γὰρ τῶν καθ' ἕκαστα  
 5 πλειόνων τὸ καθόλου δῆλον. τὸ δὲ καθόλου τίμιον,  
 ὅτι δηλοῖ τὸ αἴτιον· ὥστε περὶ τῶν τοιούτων ἡ  
 καθόλου τιμιωτέρα τῶν αἰσθήσεων καὶ τῆς νοή-  
 σεως, ὅσων ἕτερον τὸ αἴτιον· περὶ δὲ τῶν πρώτων  
 ἄλλος λόγος.

Φανερόν οὖν ὅτι ἀδύνατον τῷ αἰσθάνεσθαι ἐπί-  
 10 στασθαί τι τῶν ἀποδεικτῶν,<sup>2</sup> εἰ μὴ τις τὸ αἰσθά-  
 νεσθαι τοῦτο λέγει, τὸ ἐπιστήμην ἔχειν δι' ἀπο-  
 δείξεως. ἔστι μέντοι ἔνια ἀναγόμενα εἰς αἰσθήσεως  
 ἐκλείψιν ἐν τοῖς προβλήμασιν. ἔνια γὰρ εἰ ἐωρῶμεν  
 οὐκ ἂν ἐζητοῦμεν, οὐχ ὥς εἰδότες τῷ ὁρᾶν, ἀλλ'  
 ὥς ἔχοντες τὸ καθόλου ἐκ τοῦ ὁρᾶν. οἷον εἰ τὴν  
 15 ὕalon τετρυπημένην ἐωρῶμεν καὶ τὸ φῶς διόν,

<sup>1</sup> τῷ] τὸ B, Philoponus (?), Ross.

<sup>2</sup> ἀποδεικτικῶν ABd.

<sup>a</sup> Particular facts (given by sense-perception) have their causes in ultimate laws or truths (apprehended by intuition).



maintain) *know* that it is so. Sense-perception must be concerned with particulars, whereas knowledge depends upon recognition of the universal. Hence if we were on the moon and saw the earth intercepting the light of the sun, we should not know the cause of the eclipse. We should only perceive that an eclipse was taking place at that moment ; we should have no perception at all of the reason for it, because (as we have seen) sense-perception does not tell us anything about universals. If, however, by observing repeated instances we had succeeded in grasping the universal, we should have our proof ; because it is from the repetition of particular experiences that we obtain our view of the universal. The value of the universal is that it exhibits the cause. Thus in considering facts of this kind which have a cause other than themselves, knowledge of the universal is more valuable than perception by the senses or intuition.<sup>a</sup> Primary truths call for separate consideration.<sup>b</sup>

Clearly then it is impossible to acquire knowledge of any demonstrable fact by sense-perception, unless by sense-perception one means the acquisition of knowledge by demonstration. There are some problems, however, which are referable to a failure of sense-perception ; *e.g.*, there are phenomena whose explanation would cause no difficulty if we could see what happens ; not because we know a thing by seeing it, but because seeing it enables us to grasp the universal. For example, if we could see the channels in the burning-glass and the light passing

although its limitations may impede our comprehension.

Logic shows their connexion by proving the specific truth which covers all relevant particulars.

<sup>b</sup> Cf. 100 b 12.

δηλον ἂν ἦν καὶ διὰ τί καίει, τῷ ὄραν μὲν χωρὶς ἐφ' ἐκάστης, νοῆσαι δ' ἅμα ὅτι ἐπὶ πασῶν οὕτως.

XXXII. Τὰς δ' αὐτὰς ἀρχὰς ἀπάντων εἶναι τῶν συλλογισμῶν ἀδύνατον, πρῶτον μὲν λογικῶς θεω-  
 20 ροῦσιν. οἱ μὲν γὰρ ἀληθεῖς εἰσι τῶν συλλογισ-  
 μῶν, οἱ δὲ ψευδεῖς. καὶ γὰρ εἰ<sup>1</sup> ἔστιν ἀληθὲς ἐκ  
 ψευδῶν συλλογίσασθαι, ἀλλ' ἅπαξ τοῦτο γίνεται,  
 οἷον εἰ τὸ Α κατὰ τοῦ Γ ἀληθές, τὸ δὲ μέσον τὸ Β  
 ψεῦδος· οὔτε γὰρ τὸ Α τῷ Β ὑπάρχει οὔτε τὸ Β  
 25 τῷ Γ. ἀλλ' ἐὰν τούτων μέσα λαμβάνηται τῶν  
 προτάσεων, ψευδεῖς ἔσονται διὰ τὸ πᾶν συμπε-  
 ρασμα ψεῦδος ἐκ ψευδῶν εἶναι, τὰ δ' ἀληθῆ ἐξ  
 ἀληθῶν, ἕτερα δὲ τὰ ψευδῆ καὶ τὰ ληθῆ. εἴτα οὐδὲ  
 τὰ ψευδῆ ἐκ τῶν αὐτῶν ἑαυτοῖς· ἔστι γὰρ ψευδῆ  
 ἀλλήλοις καὶ ἐναντία καὶ ἀδύνατα ἅμα εἶναι, οἷον  
 τὸ τὴν δικαιοσύνην εἶναι ἀδικίαν ἢ δειλίαν, καὶ τὸν  
 30 ἄνθρωπον ἵππον ἢ βοῦν, ἢ τὸ ἴσον μεῖζον ἢ ἔλαττον.

Ἐκ δὲ τῶν κειμένων ὧδε· οὐδὲ γὰρ τῶν ἀληθῶν  
 αἱ αὐταὶ ἀρχαὶ πάντων. ἕτεραι γὰρ πολλῶν τῷ  
 γένει αἱ ἀρχαί, καὶ οὐδ' ἐφαρμόττουσαι, οἷον αἱ  
 μονάδες ταῖς στιγμαῖς οὐκ ἐφαρμόττουσιν· αἱ μὲν  
 γὰρ οὐκ ἔχουσι θέσιν, αἱ δὲ ἔχουσιν. ἀνάγκη δέ  
 35 γε ἢ εἰς μέσα ἀρμόττειν ἢ ἄνωθεν ἢ κάτωθεν, ἢ

<sup>1</sup> εἰ om. ABd.

<sup>a</sup> According to Gorgias, fr. 5 (Diels) = Theophrastus, *de Igne* 73.

<sup>b</sup> Cf. *An. Pr.* II. ii-iv.

<sup>c</sup> This is inaccurate. A false conclusion can have one true premiss, and a true conclusion can have one or both premisses false. Thus there is no guarantee that the irregularity "only happens once." However, the general distinction between true and false syllogisms is fair enough.

<sup>d</sup> As being peculiar to different sciences.

through,<sup>a</sup> it would also be obvious why it burns ; because we should see the effect severally in each particular instance, and appreciate at the same time that this is what happens in every case.

XXXII. Syllogisms cannot all have the same first principles. (1) This can be shown, in the first place, by dialectical arguments. (a) Some syllogisms are true, others are false. It is, of course, possible to draw a true conclusion from false premisses,<sup>b</sup> but this only happens once (in a chain of inference) ; e.g., if it is true to assert A of C, but false to assert the middle term B, because A does not apply to B nor B to C ; now if we take middle terms in these premisses, the (new) premisses will be false, because every false conclusion is based upon false premisses, whereas true conclusions are drawn from true premisses,<sup>c</sup> and what is false is different from what is true. (b) Even false conclusions do not always have identical first principles ; because a false judgement may either involve a contradiction, e.g., that justice is injustice or that the equal is greater or smaller ; or incompatibility, e.g., that justice is cowardice, or that a man is a horse or an ox.

Syllogisms cannot all have the same first principles. First dialectical proof.

Second dialectical proof.

(2) The impossibility can be shown from what we have established already, as follows. (a) Not even all true syllogisms have the same principles. Many have first principles which are generically different,<sup>d</sup> and cannot be interchanged ; as for example units cannot be interchanged with points, since the latter have position and the former have not. In any case the terms<sup>e</sup> must be introduced either as middles, or as majors or minors, to the original terms ; or partly as

Five logical arguments.

<sup>e</sup> *Sc.*, belonging to the principle of the second science, by which it is hoped to prove the facts of the first.

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τοὺς μὲν εἴσω ἔχειν τοὺς δ' ἔξω τῶν ὅρων. ἀλλ' οὐδὲ τῶν κοινῶν ἀρχῶν οἷόν τ' εἶναι τινὰς ἐξ ὧν

88 b

ἅπαντα δειχθήσεται (λέγω δὲ κοινὰς οἷον τὸ πᾶν φάναι ἢ ἀποφάναι). τὰ γὰρ γένη τῶν ὄντων ἕτερα, καὶ τὰ μὲν τοῖς ποσοῖς τὰ δὲ τοῖς ποιοῖς ὑπάρχει μόνοις, μεθ' ὧν δείκνυται διὰ τῶν κοινῶν. ἔτι αἱ ἀρχαὶ οὐ πολλῶ ἐλάττους τῶν συμπερασμάτων. 5 ἀρχαὶ μὲν γὰρ αἱ προτάσεις, αἱ δὲ προτάσεις ἢ προσλαμβανομένου ὅρου ἢ ἐμβαλλομένου εἰσίν. ἔτι τὰ συμπεράσματα ἄπειρα, οἱ δ' ὅροι πεπερασμένοι. ἔτι αἱ ἀρχαὶ αἱ μὲν ἐξ ἀνάγκης, αἱ δ' ἐνδεχόμεναι.

Οὕτω μὲν οὖν σκοπούμενοις ἀδύνατον τὰς αὐτὰς 10 εἶναι πεπερασμένας, ἀπείρων ὄντων τῶν συμπερασμάτων. εἰ δ' ἄλλως πως λέγοι τις, οἷον ὅτι αἰδὶ

<sup>a</sup> Sc., so that terms from different genera will be predicated of one another; which is impossible (75 b 10).

<sup>b</sup> It would be truer to say that the common principles provide the general conditions of the proof which is drawn from the special principles.

<sup>c</sup> This argument smacks of equivocation. In the hypothesis that all syllogisms have the same ἀρχαί the word ἀρχαί seems to bear the sense of "ultimate principles," which might well be expected to be few in comparison with the many conclusions drawn from them. On the other hand premisses are surely ἀρχαί only as "starting-points" relatively to the conclusion. If there is no equivocation, the hypothesis is equivalent to "All syllogisms have the same premisses," which scarcely needs refutation.

The effects of adding terms to a syllogism have been considered in *An. Pr.* 42 b 16 ff., where Aristotle decides that "there will be many more conclusions than either terms or premisses." Noting the inconsistency, Ross suspects that the present passage expresses an earlier and superficial view. But the rule stated in the other passage (quoted by Ross in



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the former and partly as the latter.<sup>a</sup> (b) It is impossible that any of the common principles (*e.g.*, the law of the excluded middle) should serve as premisses for all proofs ; because subjects belong to different genera, some of which are predicated only of quantities and others only of qualities. It is with the help of these that proofs are effected by means of the common first principles.<sup>b</sup> (c) The principles are not much fewer in number than the conclusions ; because the premisses are principles, and premisses are formed by adding another term either externally or internally.<sup>c</sup> (d) The conclusions are infinite in number whereas the terms are finite.<sup>d</sup> (e) Some principles are apodeictic, others problematic.<sup>e</sup>

If we regard the question in this way the principles cannot be the same for all or finite in number when the conclusions are infinite. (3) Supposing that " the Answers to  
the form " $n$  premisses give  $\frac{n(n-1)}{2}$  conclusions " ) is valid

only if we deny the name " premiss " to those conclusions from which as premisses the remaining conclusions are proved. *E.g.*, to take one of Ross's examples : " from four premisses 'A is B,' 'B is C,' 'C is D,' 'D is E' we get six conclusions 'A is C,' 'A is D,' 'A is E,' 'B is D,' 'B is E,' 'C is E' " ; here only the first, fourth and sixth are proved directly from the original four premisses ; the remainder are proved by the help of three further premisses supplied from the conclusions. By this more accurate reckoning the premisses will always be one more than the conclusions, so Aristotle's statement in the present passage (if treated as a *meiosis*) is not far from the truth.

<sup>a</sup> The conclusions are infinitely many because we know of no limit that can be set to them ; but the principles, if " the same for all," must be limited, and so must the premisses and terms, if the premisses are principles. Yet we have just seen that the principles are " not much fewer " than the conclusions.

<sup>e</sup> And the conclusions drawn from them differ accordingly.

μὲν γεωμετρίας αἰδὶ δὲ λογισμῶν αἰδὶ δὲ ἰατρικῆς,  
 τί ἂν εἴη τὸ λεγόμενον ἄλλο πλὴν ὅτι εἰσὶν ἀρχαὶ  
 τῶν ἐπιστημῶν; τὸ δὲ τὰς αὐτὰς φάναι γελοῖον,  
 15 ὅτι αὐταὶ αὐταῖς αἰ αὐταί· πάντα γὰρ οὕτω γίνεταί  
 ταυτά. ἀλλὰ μὴν οὐδὲ τὸ ἐξ ἀπάντων δείκνυσθαι  
 ὅτιοῦν, τοῦτ' ἐστὶ τὸ ζητεῖν ἀπάντων εἶναι τὰς  
 αὐτὰς ἀρχάς· λίαν γὰρ εὐηθες. οὔτε γὰρ ἐν τοῖς  
 φανεροῖς μαθήμασι τοῦτο γίνεταί, οὔτ' ἐν τῇ  
 ἀναλύσει δυνατόν· αἱ γὰρ ἄμεσοι προτάσεις ἀρχαί,  
 20 ἕτερον δὲ συμπέρασμα προσληφθείσης γίνεταί προ-  
 τάσεως ἀμέσου. εἰ δὲ λέγοι τις τὰς πρώτας ἀμέ-  
 σους προτάσεις ταύτας εἶναι ἀρχάς, μία ἐν ἐκάστῳ  
 γένει ἐστίν. εἰ δὲ μήτ' ἐξ ἀπασῶν ὥς δέον δείκ-  
 νυσθαι ὅτιοῦν μήτ' οὕτως ἑτέρας ὥσθ' ἐκάστης  
 ἐπιστήμης εἶναι ἑτέρας, λείπεται εἰ συγγενεῖς αἰ  
 25 ἀρχαὶ πάντων, ἀλλ' ἐκ τωνδὶ μὲν ταδί, ἐκ δὲ τωνδὶ  
 ταδί. φανερόν δὲ καὶ τοῦθ' ὅτι οὐκ ἐνδέχεται·  
 δέδεικται γὰρ ὅτι ἄλλαι ἀρχαὶ τῷ γένει εἰσὶν αἰ  
 τῶν διαφόρων τῷ γένει. αἱ γὰρ ἀρχαὶ διτταί, ἐξ  
 ὧν τε καὶ περὶ ὅ· αἱ μὲν οὖν ἐξ ὧν κοιναί, αἱ δὲ  
 περὶ ὃ ἴδιαι, οἷον ἀριθμός, μέγεθος.

<sup>a</sup> Viz., the definition of the subject-matter.

<sup>b</sup> In ch. vii.

<sup>c</sup> Cf. 75 b 2.

same " is used with another meaning, as if one should say " these are the very principles of geometry and these of arithmetic and these of medicine," this would simply mean no more than that there are principles of the sciences. It is absurd to say that they are the same *as themselves* ; because on this basis anything can be called the same. (4) Nor again does the attempt to maintain that all syllogisms have the same principles mean that any given proposition can be proved from the totality of first principles. This would be too absurd. It is not the case in the mathematical sciences whose methods are obvious ; and it is not possible in analysis, because here it is the immediate premisses that are the first principles, and each new conclusion is formed by the addition of a new immediate premiss. (5) If it be suggested that it is the primary immediate premisses that are the first principles, there is one <sup>a</sup> in each genus. (6) If, however, while it is not claimed that any conclusion must be provable from the totality of the first principles, it is still denied that the latter differ to the extent of being generically different for each science, it remains to consider whether the first principles of all propositions are cognate, but some are proper to the proofs of one and some to those of another particular science. It is obvious however that even this is impossible, because we have shown <sup>b</sup> that the first principles of things which differ in genus are themselves generically different. The fact is that first principles are of two kinds : the premisses from which demonstration proceeds, and the genus with which the demonstration is concerned.<sup>c</sup> The former are common, while the latter (*e.g.*, number and magnitude) are peculiar.

possible objections or evasions.

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30 XXXIII. Τὸ δ' ἐπιστητὸν καὶ ἐπιστήμη διαφέρει  
 τοῦ δοξαστοῦ καὶ δόξης, ὅτι ἡ μὲν ἐπιστήμη καθό-  
 λου καὶ δι' ἀναγκαίων, τὸ δ' ἀναγκαῖον οὐκ ἐνδέ-  
 χεται ἄλλως ἔχειν. ἔστι δέ τινα ἀληθῆ μὲν καὶ  
 ὄντα, ἐνδεχόμενα δὲ καὶ ἄλλως ἔχειν. δῆλον οὖν  
 ὅτι περὶ μὲν ταῦτα ἐπιστήμη οὐκ ἔστιν· εἴη γὰρ  
 35 ἂν ἀδύνατα ἄλλως ἔχειν τὰ δυνατὰ ἄλλως ἔχειν.  
 ἀλλὰ μὴν οὐδὲ νοῦς (λέγω γὰρ νοῦν ἀρχὴν ἐπιστή-  
 μης) οὐδ' ἐπιστήμη ἀναπόδεικτος (τοῦτο δ' ἐστὶν  
 89 a ὑπόληψις τῆς ἀμέσου προτάσεως). ἀληθὲς δ' ἐστὶ  
 νοῦς καὶ ἐπιστήμη καὶ δόξα καὶ τὸ διὰ τούτων  
 λεγόμενον· ὥστε λείπεται δόξαν εἶναι περὶ τὸ ἀλη-  
 θές μὲν ἢ ψευδός, ἐνδεχόμενον δὲ καὶ ἄλλως ἔχειν.  
 τοῦτο δ' ἐστὶν ὑπόληψις τῆς ἀμέσου προτάσεως  
 5 καὶ μὴ ἀναγκαίας. καὶ ὁμολογούμενον δ' οὕτω  
 τοῖς φαινόμενοις· ἡ τε γὰρ δόξα ἀβέβαιον, καὶ ἡ  
 φύσις ἡ τοιαύτη. πρὸς δὲ τούτοις οὐδεὶς οἶεται  
 δοξάζειν ὅταν οἴηται ἀδύνατον ἄλλως ἔχειν, ἀλλ'  
 ἐπίστασθαι· ἀλλ' ὅταν εἶναι μὲν οὕτως, οὐ μὴν  
 ἀλλὰ καὶ ἄλλως οὐδὲν κωλύειν, τότε δοξάζειν, ὡς  
 10 τοῦ μὲν τοιούτου δόξαν οὔσαν, τοῦ δ' ἀναγκαίου  
 ἐπιστήμην.

Πῶς οὖν ἔστι τὸ αὐτὸ δοξάσαι καὶ ἐπίστασθαι,  
 καὶ διὰ τί οὐκ ἔσται<sup>1</sup> ἡ δόξα ἐπιστήμη, εἴ τις θήσει  
 ἅπαν ὃ οἶδεν ἐνδέχεσθαι δοξάζειν; ἀκολουθήσει

<sup>1</sup> ἔστιν Dc.

<sup>a</sup> It does not seem that Aristotle intends any distinction between intuition and indemonstrable knowledge.

<sup>b</sup> i.e., mental states or activities.



XXXIII. Knowledge and its object differ from opinion and its object in that knowledge is of the universal and proceeds by necessary propositions ; and that which is necessary cannot be otherwise ; but there are some propositions which, though true and real, are also capable of being otherwise. Obviously it is not knowledge that is concerned with these ; if it were, that which is capable of being otherwise would be incapable of being otherwise. Nor is it intuition—by which I mean the starting-point of knowledge—or indemonstrable knowledge,<sup>a</sup> which is the apprehension of an immediate premiss. But the only things<sup>b</sup> that are true are intuition, knowledge and opinion, and the discourse resulting from these. Therefore we are left with the conclusion that it is opinion that is concerned with that which is true or false and which may be otherwise. In other words opinion is the assumption of a premiss which is neither mediated nor necessary. This description agrees with observed usage ; for opinion, like events of the character which we have just described, is uncertain. Besides, no one thinks that he is “ opining ” when he thinks that a thing cannot be otherwise ; he thinks that he has knowledge. It is when he thinks that a thing is so, but nevertheless there is no reason why it should not be otherwise, that he thinks that he is opining ; which implies that opinion is concerned with this sort of proposition, while knowledge is concerned with that which must be so.

Knowledge contrasted with opinion.

Opinion is of the contingent.

How, then, is it possible for the same thing to be an object of both opinion and knowledge ? and if someone maintains that he can opine everything that he knows, what reason can we give to show why opinion is not knowledge ? Both the man who knows

How can knowledge and opinion have the same object ?

- γὰρ ὁ μὲν εἰδὼς ὁ δὲ δοξάζων διὰ τῶν μέσων ἕως  
 15 εἰς τὰ ἄμεσα ἔλθῃ, ὥστ' εἴπερ ἐκείνος οἶδε, καὶ ὁ  
 δοξάζων οἶδεν. ὥσπερ γὰρ καὶ τὸ ὅτι δοξάζειν  
 ἔστι, καὶ τὸ διότι· τοῦτο δὲ τὸ μέσον. ἢ εἰ μὲν  
 οὕτως ὑπολήφεται τὰ μὴ ἐνδεχόμενα ἄλλως ἔχειν  
 ὥσπερ [ἔχει]<sup>1</sup> τοὺς ὁρισμοὺς δι' ὧν αἱ ἀποδείξεις,  
 οὐ δοξάσει ἀλλ' ἐπιστήσεται· εἰ δ' ἀληθῆ μὲν εἶναι,  
 20 οὐ μέντοι ταυτὰ γε αὐτοῖς ὑπάρχειν κατ' οὐσίαν  
 καὶ κατὰ τὸ εἶδος, δοξάσει καὶ οὐκ ἐπιστήσεται  
 ἀληθῶς, καὶ τὸ ὅτι καὶ τὸ διότι, ἐὰν μὲν διὰ τῶν  
 ἀμέσων δοξάσῃ· ἐὰν δὲ μὴ διὰ τῶν ἀμέσων, τὸ ὅτι  
 μόνον δοξάσει; τοῦ δ' αὐτοῦ δόξα καὶ ἐπιστήμη  
 οὐ πάντως ἐστίν, ἀλλ' ὥσπερ καὶ ψευδῆς καὶ ἀλη-  
 25 θῆς τοῦ αὐτοῦ τρόπον τινά, οὕτω καὶ ἐπιστήμη καὶ  
 δόξα τοῦ αὐτοῦ. καὶ γὰρ δόξαν ἀληθῆ καὶ ψευδῆ  
 ὥς μὲν τινες λέγουσι τοῦ αὐτοῦ εἶναι, ἄτοπα συμ-  
 βαίνειν αἰρεῖσθαι ἄλλα τε καὶ μὴ δοξάζειν ὁ δοξάζει  
 ψευδῶς· ἐπεὶ δὲ τὸ αὐτὸ πλεοναχῶς λέγεται, ἔστι  
 30 μὲν ὥς ἐνδέχεται, ἔστι δ' ὥς οὐ. τὸ μὲν γὰρ σύμ-  
 μετρον εἶναι τὴν διάμετρον ἀληθῶς δοξάζειν ἄτοπον·  
 ἀλλ' ὅτι ἢ διάμετρος, περὶ ἣν αἱ δόξαι, τὸ αὐτό,  
 οὕτω τοῦ αὐτοῦ, τὸ δὲ τί ἦν εἶναι ἐκατέρω κατὰ  
 τὸν λόγον οὐ τὸ αὐτό. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐπιστήμη καὶ  
 δόξα τοῦ αὐτοῦ. ἢ μὲν γὰρ οὕτως τοῦ ζῶον ὥστε  
 35 μὴ ἐνδέχεσθαι μὴ εἶναι ζῶον, ἢ δ' ὥστ' ἐνδέχεσθαι,

<sup>1</sup> secl. Ross : ἔχειν M, Bekker, Waitz.

<sup>a</sup> Cf. the discussion of the Law of Contradiction in *Met.* IV (I) iv-viii.

<sup>b</sup> The true opinion—that the diagonal is incommensurable—recognizes a property of the diagonal which follows from its essence as expressed in definition; the contrary false opinion does not.

and the man who opines will proceed by means of the middle terms until they reach the immediate premisses ; so that if the former knows, so does the latter ; because it is equally possible to opine the fact and the reason for it ; *i.e.*, the middle term. The solution is probably this. If you apprehend propositions which cannot be otherwise in the same way as you apprehend the definitions through which demonstrations are effected, you will have not opinion but knowledge ; but if you only apprehend that the attributes are true and not that they apply in virtue of the essence and specific nature of their subject, you will have not true knowledge but an opinion, of both the fact and the reason for it,—that is, if you have reached your opinion through the immediate premisses ; otherwise you will have an opinion only of the fact. It is not in every sense that opinion and knowledge have the same object, but only in the sense that true and false opinion have, in a manner, the same object. (The sense in which some authorities <sup>a</sup> hold true and false opinion to apply to the same object involves, amongst other absurdities, the view that false opinion is not opinion at all.) Since “ the same ” is an equivocal expression, there is a sense in which this is possible, and another in which it is not. It would be absurd to have a true opinion that the diagonal of a square is commensurable with the sides ; but since the diagonal, with which the opinions are concerned, is the same, in this sense the true and the false opinion have the same object ; but the essence (in accordance with the definition) of the two objects is not the same.<sup>b</sup> It is in this sense that knowledge and opinion can have the same object. Knowledge apprehends the term “ animal ” as a necessary,

Because they regard it differently,

just as true and false opinion do,

knowledge seeing an essential

89 a

οἶον εἰ ἡ μὲν ὅπερ ἀνθρώπου ἐστίν, ἡ δ' ἀνθρώπου μὲν, μὴ ὅπερ δ' ἀνθρώπου. τὸ αὐτὸ γὰρ ὅτι ἀνθρωπος, τὸ δ' ὡς οὐ τὸ αὐτό.

Φανερόν δ' ἐκ τούτων ὅτι οὐδὲ δοξάζειν ἅμα τὸ αὐτὸ καὶ ἐπίστασθαι ἐνδέχεται. ἅμα γὰρ ἂν ἔχοι  
 89 b ὑπόληψιν τοῦ ἄλλως ἔχειν καὶ μὴ ἄλλως τὸ αὐτό· ὅπερ οὐκ ἐνδέχεται. ἐν ἄλλῳ μὲν γὰρ ἐκάτερον εἶναι ἐνδέχεται τοῦ αὐτοῦ ὡς εἴρηται, ἐν δὲ τῷ αὐτῷ οὐδ' οὕτως οἶόν τε· ἔξει γὰρ ὑπόληψιν ἅμα, οἶον ὅτι ὁ ἀνθρωπος ὅπερ ζῶον (τοῦτο γὰρ ἦν τὸ  
 5 μὴ ἐνδέχεσθαι εἶναι μὴ ζῶον) καὶ μὴ ὅπερ ζῶον· τοῦτο γὰρ ἔστω<sup>1</sup> τὸ ἐνδέχεσθαι.

Τὰ δὲ λοιπὰ πῶς δεῖ διανεῖμαι ἐπὶ τε διανοίας καὶ νοῦ καὶ ἐπιστήμης καὶ τέχνης καὶ φρονήσεως καὶ σοφίας, τὰ μὲν φυσικῆς τὰ δὲ ἠθικῆς θεωρίας μᾶλλον ἐστίν.

10 XXXIV. 'Η δ' ἀγχίνοιά ἐστιν εὐστοχία τις ἐν ἀσκέπτῳ χρόνῳ τοῦ μέσου, οἶον εἰ τις ἰδὼν ὅτι ἡ σελήνη τὸ λαμπρὸν αἰεὶ ἔχει πρὸς τὸν ἥλιον, ταχὺ ἐνενόησε διὰ τί τοῦτο, ὅτι διὰ τὸ λάμπειν ἀπὸ τοῦ ἡλίου· ἢ διαλεγόμενον πλουσίῳ ἔγνω διότι δανεί-  
 15 ζεται· ἢ διότι φίλοι, ὅτι ἐχθροὶ τοῦ αὐτοῦ. πάντα γὰρ τὰ αἷτια τὰ μέσα [ό]<sup>2</sup> ἰδὼν τὰ ἄκρα ἐγνώρισεν.

<sup>1</sup> ἔσται A<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>2</sup> secl. Ross: om. Philoponus (?).

<sup>a</sup> Cf. 73 b 16 ff.

<sup>b</sup> Exact equivalents are hard to find in English. *διάνοια* is a comprehensive term for coherent thinking; *νοῦς* is direct apprehension of the indemonstrable (cf. *De Anima* III. iv-vii); *ἐπιστήμη* is the logical exploration of scientific facts; *τέχνη* the application of thought to production; *φρόνησις* the appreciation of moral values; *σοφία* the study of reality at the highest level. The last five are discussed in *Eth. Nic.* VI. iii-vii.



opinion as a contingent attribute ; *e.g.*, knowledge apprehends it as essentially predicable of " man " ; opinion as predicable of " man " but not essentially. The subject " man " is the same in both cases, but the mode of predication is not the same.

connexion where opinion does not.

These considerations make it clear that it is impossible to have opinion and knowledge at the same time about the same object ; otherwise one would apprehend that the same thing both could and could not be otherwise, which is impossible. Knowledge and opinion of the same object may exist separately in different minds in the sense which we have explained ; but they cannot so exist in the same mind. This would imply the apprehension at one and the same time (*e.g.*) that man is essentially an animal (we have seen <sup>a</sup> that this is what it means to say that it is impossible for man not to be an animal) and is not essentially an animal (which we may take to be the meaning of the contrary assertion).

Hence one cannot have both at once about the same object.

How the other modes of thought should be distributed between cogitation, intuition, science, art, practical intelligence and wisdom will be better considered partly by natural science and partly by ethics.<sup>b</sup>

Other modes of thought to be discussed elsewhere.

XXXIV. Quickness of wit is a sort of flair for hitting upon the middle term without a moment's hesitation. A man sees that the moon always has its bright side facing the sun, and immediately realizes the reason : that it is because the moon derives its brightness from the sun ; or he sees someone talking to a rich man, and decides that it is because he is trying to borrow money ; or he understands why people are friends, because they have a common enemy. In all these cases, perception of the extreme terms enables him to recognize the cause or middle term.

Quickness of wit.

89 b

τὸ λαμπρὸν εἶναι τὸ πρὸς τὸν ἥλιον ἐφ' οὗ A, τὸ  
 λάμπειν ἀπὸ τοῦ ἡλίου B, σελήνη τὸ Γ. ὑπάρχει  
 δὴ τῇ μὲν σελήνῃ τῷ Γ τὸ B, τὸ λάμπειν ἀπὸ τοῦ  
 ἡλίου· τῷ δὲ B τὸ A, τὸ πρὸς τοῦτ' εἶναι τὸ  
 20 λαμπρὸν ἀφ' οὗ λάμπει· ὥστε καὶ τῷ Γ τὸ A διὰ  
 τοῦ B.

## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, I. xxxiv

A stands for "bright side facing the sun," B for "deriving brightness from the sun," and C for "moon." Then B, "deriving brightness from the sun," applies to C, "moon," and A, "having its bright side facing the source of its brightness," applies to B. Thus A applies to C through B.

## B

89 b 23 I. Τὰ ζητούμενά ἐστιν ἴσα τὸν ἀριθμὸν ὅσαπερ  
ἐπιστάμεθα. ζητοῦμεν δὲ τέτταρα, τὸ ὅτι, τὸ  
25 διότι, εἰ ἔστι, τί ἐστιν. ὅταν μὲν γὰρ πότερον τόδε  
ἢ τόδε ζητῶμεν, εἰς ἀριθμὸν θέντες, οἷον πότερον  
ἐκλείπει ὁ ἥλιος ἢ οὐ, τὸ ὅτι ζητοῦμεν. σημεῖον δὲ  
τούτου· εὐρόντες γὰρ ὅτι ἐκλείπει πεπαύμεθα· καὶ  
ἐὰν ἐξ ἀρχῆς εἰδῶμεν ὅτι ἐκλείπει, οὐ ζητοῦμεν  
πότερον. ὅταν δὲ εἰδῶμεν τὸ ὅτι, τὸ διότι ζητοῦ-  
30 μεν, οἷον εἰδότες ὅτι ἐκλείπει καὶ ὅτι κινεῖται ἢ γῆ,  
τὸ διότι ἐκλείπει ἢ διότι κινεῖται ζητοῦμεν. ταῦτα  
μὲν οὖν οὕτως, ἓν αὖ δ' ἄλλον τρόπον ζητοῦμεν, οἷον  
εἰ ἔστιν ἢ μὴ ἔστι κένταυρος ἢ θεός (τὸ δ' εἰ ἔστιν ἢ  
μὴ ἀπλῶς λέγω, ἀλλ' οὐκ εἰ λευκὸς ἢ μὴ)· γνόντες  
δὲ ὅτι ἔστι, τί ἐστι ζητοῦμεν, οἷον τί οὖν ἐστι θεός,  
35 ἢ τί ἐστιν ἄνθρωπος;

II. Ἄ μὲν οὖν ζητοῦμεν καὶ ἃ εὐρόντες ἴσμεν,  
ταῦτα καὶ τοσαῦτά ἐστιν. ζητοῦμεν δέ, ὅταν μὲν  
ζητῶμεν τὸ ὅτι ἢ τὸ εἰ ἔστιν ἀπλῶς, ἄρ' ἔστι μέσον

<sup>a</sup> i.e., a predicate as well as a subject.

<sup>b</sup> The four questions intended seem clearly to be (1) Is S P? (2) Why is S P? (3) Does S exist? (4) What is (the



## BOOK II

I. THERE are four kinds of question that we ask, and they correspond to the kinds of things that we know. They are : the question of fact, the question of reason or cause, the question of existence, and the question of essence. (1) When we ask whether this or that is so, introducing a plurality of terms <sup>a</sup> (*e.g.*, whether the sun suffers eclipse or not), we are asking the question of fact. The proof is that when we have discovered that it does suffer eclipse our inquiry is finished ; and if we know at the outset that it does so, we do not ask whether it does. It is when we know the fact that we ask (2) the reason ; *e.g.*, if we know that the sun suffers eclipse and that the earth moves, we ask the reasons for these facts. That is how we ask these questions ; but there are others which take a different form : *e.g.* (3) whether a centaur or a god exists. The question of existence refers to simple existence, and not to whether the subject is (say) white or not. When we know that the subject exists, we ask (4) what it is ; *e.g.*, “ what, then, is a god ? ” or “ a man ? ” <sup>b</sup>

BOOK II.  
DEMON-  
STRATION  
AND DEFINITION.  
The four  
kinds of  
question  
and their  
objects.

II. These are the four kinds of question which we ask and the four kinds of knowledge which we have when we have discovered the answers. When we ask the question of fact or of simple existence, we

Each kind  
of question  
relates to a  
middle  
term,

definition of) S ?—*i.e.*, it is implied that each is asked about a subject term or substance. But *cf.* Introd. p. 12.

89 b

αὐτοῦ ἢ οὐκ ἔστιν· ὅταν δὲ γνόντες ἢ τὸ ὅτι ἢ εἰ  
 90 a ἔστιν, ἢ τὸ ἐπὶ μέρους ἢ τὸ ἀπλῶς, πάλιν τὸ διὰ τί  
 ζητῶμεν ἢ τὸ τί ἐστι, τότε ζητοῦμεν τί τὸ μέσον.  
 λέγω δὲ τὸ ὅτι ἢ εἰ ἔστιν ἐπὶ μέρους καὶ ἀπλῶς,  
 ἐπὶ μέρους μὲν, ἄρ' ἐκλείπει ἢ σελήνη ἢ αὔξειται;  
 εἰ γάρ ἐστι τί ἢ μή ἐστι τί ἐν τοῖς τοιούτοις ζητοῦ-  
 5 μεν· ἀπλῶς δ', εἰ ἔστιν ἢ μή σελήνη ἢ νύξ.

Συμβαίνει ἄρα ἐν ἀπάσαις ταῖς ζητήσεσι ζητεῖν  
 ἢ εἰ ἔστι μέσον ἢ τί ἐστι τὸ μέσον. τὸ μὲν γὰρ  
 αἷτιον τὸ μέσον, ἐν ἅπασιν δὲ τοῦτο ζητεῖται. ἄρ'  
 ἐκλείπει; ἄρ' ἔστι τι αἷτιον ἢ οὐ; μετὰ ταῦτα  
 γνόντες ὅτι ἔστι τι, τί οὖν τοῦτ' ἔστι ζητοῦμεν. τὸ  
 10 γὰρ αἷτιον τοῦ εἶναι μὴ τοδὶ ἢ τοδὶ ἄλλ' ἀπλῶς τὴν  
 οὐσίαν, ἢ τοῦ<sup>1</sup> μὴ ἀπλῶς ἀλλὰ τι τῶν καθ' αὐτὸ ἢ  
 κατὰ συμβεβηκός, τὸ μέσον ἐστίν. λέγω δὲ τὸ μὲν  
 ἀπλῶς τὸ ὑποκείμενον, οἶον σελήνην ἢ γῆν ἢ ἥλιον ἢ  
 τρίγωνον, τὸ δὲ τί ἐκλεῖψιν ἰσότητα ἀνισότητα, εἰ

<sup>1</sup> τοῦ Bonitz : τὸ codd.

<sup>a</sup> The "thing" for which the middle term is sought must properly be an attribute or a connexion. It is only in so far as middle term=cause that the formula can be applied to substance. In a strictly teleological system to ask whether a substance exists is to ask whether it has a cause, and to ask what a substance is amounts to demanding a causal definition. (Ross well compares *Met.* 1041 a 26, b 4, 1043 a 14-21, remarking truly that Aristotle seldom observes this principle of definition.) But, as the examples show, Aristotle is already thinking less of substances than of phenomena and attributes. His analysis is indeed over-simplified.

are asking whether the thing <sup>a</sup> has a middle term or not ; but when, after ascertaining that the proposition is a fact or that the subject exists (in other words, that the subject *is* in a particular sense, or simply *is*), we then proceed to ask the reason for the fact, or what the subject is, we are asking what the middle term is. In describing the "fact" and "existence" as particular and simple modes of being I mean this : an example of particular being is "Does the moon suffer eclipse ?" or "Does the moon wax ?" because in such questions we are asking whether an attribute is predicable of the subject ; an example of simple being is "Does the moon exist ?" or "Does night <sup>b</sup> exist ?"

It follows, then, that in all these questions we are asking either "Is there a middle term ?" or "What is the middle term ?" because the middle term is the cause, and that is what we are trying to find out in every case. "Does it suffer eclipse ?" means "Is there or is there not a cause (for its being eclipsed) ?"; and then, when we have ascertained that there is a cause, we ask "then what is the cause ?" The cause for a substance's being—not being this or that, but simply existing—and the cause, not for its simply existing, but for its being coupled with some essential or accidental <sup>c</sup> attribute—is in both cases the middle term. By that which simply exists I mean the subject—moon, earth, sun or triangle—; by that which the subject is in a particular sense I mean the predicate : being eclipsed, equality, inequality, inter-

because we  
are always  
seeking a  
cause.

<sup>b</sup> Night is not a substance, like the moon, but either an event or a privative attribute. If Aristotle intends to vary his choice of subject, he should do so explicitly.

<sup>c</sup> Or rather "non-essential." A purely accidental attribute would be outside the scope of science.

90 a

ἐν μέσῳ ἢ μὴ. ἐν ἅπασιν γὰρ τούτοις φανερόν ἐστιν  
 15 ὅτι τὸ αὐτὸ ἐστὶ τὸ τί ἐστὶ καὶ διὰ τί ἐστὶν. τί  
 ἐστὶν ἔκλειψις; στέρησις φωτὸς ἀπὸ σελήνης ὑπὸ  
 γῆς ἀντιφράξεως. διὰ τί ἐστὶν ἔκλειψις, ἢ διὰ τί  
 ἐκλείπει ἢ σελήνη; διὰ τὸ ἀπολείπειν τὸ φῶς ἀντι-  
 φραττούσης τῆς γῆς. τί ἐστὶ συμφωνία; λόγος  
 20 ἀριθμῶν ἐν ὁξεί καὶ<sup>1</sup> βαρεῖ. διὰ τί συμφωνεῖ τὸ  
 ὁξὺ τῷ βαρεῖ; διὰ τὸ λόγον ἔχειν ἀριθμῶν τὸ ὁξὺ  
 καὶ τὸ βαρὺ. ἀρ' ἐστὶ συμφωνεῖν τὸ ὁξὺ καὶ τὸ  
 βαρὺ; ἀρ' ἐστὶν ἐν ἀριθμοῖς ὁ λόγος αὐτῶν;  
 λαβόντες δ' ὅτι ἐστὶ, τίς οὖν ἐστὶν ὁ λόγος;

"Οτι δ' ἐστὶ τοῦ μέσου ἢ ζήτησις, δηλοῖ ὅσων τὸ  
 25 μέσον αἰσθητόν. ζητοῦμεν γὰρ μὴ ἡσθημένοι, οἷον  
 τῆς ἐκλείψεως, εἰ ἐστὶν ἢ μὴ. εἰ δ' ἦμεν ἐπὶ τῆς  
 σελήνης, οὐκ ἂν ἐζητοῦμεν οὐτ' εἰ γίγνεται οὔτε διὰ  
 τί, ἀλλ' ἅμα δῆλον ἂν ἦν. ἐκ γὰρ τοῦ αἰσθεσθαι  
 καὶ τὸ καθόλου ἐγένετο ἂν ἡμῖν εἰδέναι. ἢ μὲν γὰρ  
 30 αἰσθησις ὅτι νῦν ἀντιφράττει (καὶ γὰρ δῆλον ὅτι  
 νῦν ἐκλείπει). ἐκ δὲ τούτου τὸ καθόλου ἂν ἐγένετο.

"Ωσπερ οὖν λέγομεν, τὸ τί ἐστὶν εἰδέναι ταυτό  
 ἐστὶ καὶ διὰ τί ἐστὶν· τοῦτο δ' ἢ ἀπλῶς καὶ μὴ τῶν

<sup>1</sup> καὶ n, Philoponus : ἢ.

<sup>a</sup> Of the earth, in an eclipse of the moon. That this is the sense of ἐν μέσῳ here seems clear from 95 a 14, 15, 98 b 18; I do not see why Ross takes it to mean "centrality in the universe."

<sup>b</sup> Viz., 1 : 2 (octave), 2 : 3 (fifth), 3 : 4 (fourth); their discovery is attributed to Pythagoras.



## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, II. II

position or non-interposition.<sup>a</sup> In all these cases it is obvious that the question of essence and the question of cause are identical. Q. "What is an eclipse?" A. "The moon's deprivation of light through obstruction by the earth," is the same as Q. "What is the cause of an eclipse?" or "Why does the moon suffer eclipse?" A. "Because the (sun's) light fails owing to the obstruction of the earth." Again, Q. "What is a concord?" A. "A numerical ratio<sup>b</sup> of high and low pitch," is the same as Q. "Why is the high note concordant with the low one?" A. "Because they exhibit a numerical ratio"; and Q. "Are the high and low notes concordant?" is the same as Q. "Is their ratio *numerical*?" And when we have grasped that it is, the question follows "Then what is their ratio?"

That the object of our inquiry is the middle term can be clearly seen in cases where the middle term is perceptible by the senses. We ask our question when we have not yet perceived whether there is a middle term or not; *e.g.*, in the case of an eclipse. If we were on the moon, we should ask neither whether nor why it was taking place; the answers to both questions would be simultaneously obvious, because from the act of perception we should be able to apprehend the universal.<sup>c</sup> The fact that the eclipse was now taking place would be obvious, and since sense-perception would tell us that the earth was now obstructing the light, from this the universal would follow.

As we said, then, to know the essence of a thing is the same as to know the cause of it. This is so whether the subject simply *is*, apart from *being* any of its

This is obvious when the middle term is perceptible to sense.

To know the essence is to know the cause.

<sup>a</sup> Cf. 88 a 12.

90 a

ὑπαρχόντων τι, ἢ τῶν ὑπαρχόντων οἷον ὅτι δύο ὀρθαί, ἢ ὅτι μείζον ἢ ἔλαττον.

III. Ὅτι μὲν οὖν πάντα τὰ ζητούμενα μέσου  
 35 ζήτησίς ἐστι, δῆλον· πῶς δὲ τὸ τί ἐστι δείκνυται,  
 καὶ τίς ὁ τρόπος τῆς ἀναγωγῆς, καὶ τί ἐστὶν ὀρι-  
 σμὸς καὶ τίνων, εἰπωμεν, διαπορήσαντες πρῶτον  
 90 b περὶ αὐτῶν. ἀρχὴ δ' ἔστω τῶν μελλόντων ἥπερ  
 ἐστὶν οἰκειοτάτη τῶν ἐχομένων λόγων.

Ἀπορήσειε γὰρ ἂν τις, ἄρ' ἔστι τὸ αὐτὸ καὶ κατὰ  
 τὸ αὐτὸ ὀρισμῶ εἰδέναι καὶ ἀποδείξει, ἢ ἀδύνατον;  
 ὁ μὲν γὰρ ὀρισμὸς τοῦ τί ἐστὶν εἶναι δοκεῖ, τὸ δὲ  
 5 τί ἐστὶν ἅπαν καθόλου καὶ κατηγορικόν· συλλογι-  
 σμοὶ δ' εἰσὶν οἱ μὲν στερητικοί, οἱ δ' οὐ καθόλου,  
 οἷον οἱ μὲν ἐν τῷ δευτέρῳ σχήματι στερητικοὶ  
 πάντες, οἱ δ' ἐν τῷ τρίτῳ οὐ καθόλου. εἰτα οὐδὲ  
 τῶν ἐν τῷ πρώτῳ σχήματι κατηγορικῶν ἀπάντων  
 ἐστὶν ὀρισμὸς, οἷον ὅτι πᾶν τρίγωνον δυσὶν ὀρθαῖς  
 10 ἴσας ἔχει. τούτου δὲ λόγος ὅτι τὸ ἐπίστασθαί ἐστιν  
 τὸ ἀποδεικτὸν<sup>1</sup> τὸ ἀπόδειξιν ἔχειν, ὥστ' εἰ ἐπὶ τῶν  
 τοιούτων ἀπόδειξις ἐστὶ, δῆλον ὅτι οὐκ ἂν εἴη  
 αὐτῶν καὶ ὀρισμὸς. ἐπίσταιτο γὰρ ἂν τις καὶ  
 κατὰ τὸν ὀρισμόν, οὐκ ἔχων τὴν ἀπόδειξιν· οὐδὲν  
 γὰρ κωλύει μὴ ἅμα ἔχειν. ἱκανὴ δὲ πίστις καὶ ἐκ  
 15 τῆς ἐπαγωγῆς· οὐδὲν γὰρ πώποτε ὀρισάμενοι ἔγνω-

<sup>1</sup> ἀποδεικτὸν c<sup>2</sup>, Philoponus: ἀποδεικτικόν Ad: ἀποδεικτικῶς BDMnu.

<sup>a</sup> As usual, Aristotle prepares for his own positive teaching

## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, II. II-III

attributes ; or whether it *is* one of its attributes, *e.g.*, having the sum of its angles equal to two right angles, or greater or smaller.

III. It is clear, then, that in all our inquiries we are trying to find a middle term. We must now explain how the essence is brought to light, and in what way it is referable to demonstration, and what definition is, and what things are definable ; first examining the difficulties involved in these questions.<sup>a</sup> Let us begin this next section with a discussion which is most pertinent to the ensuing inquiry.

Programme  
of the  
inquiry.

First we  
must dis-  
cuss some  
difficulties.

It might be asked whether it is possible to know the same thing in the same respect both by definition and by demonstration. (1) Definition is generally held to be of the essence, and essence is always universal and affirmative, but some conclusions are negative and some are not universal. *E.g.*, all those in the second figure are negative, and those in the third are not universal. (2) Again, even the affirmative conclusions in the first figure are not all appropriate to definition (*e.g.*, "every triangle has the sum of its angles equal to two right angles"). The reason for this is that to have scientific knowledge of what is demonstrable is the same as to have a demonstration of it, and so if demonstration is possible in the case of the aforesaid conclusions, clearly they cannot be definable as well ; otherwise one could know the conclusion in virtue of the definition without possessing the demonstration, since there is no reason why he should not have one without the other. (3) Induction too affords sufficient grounds for holding that definition and demonstration are not the same, be-

Can we gain  
the same  
knowledge  
by demon-  
stration and  
definition ?  
Not every-  
thing de-  
monstrable  
is definable.

(beginning in ch. viii) by an aporematic survey (chs. iii-vii) of possible theories and arguments.

90 b

μεν, οὔτε τῶν καθ' αὐτὸ ὑπαρχόντων οὔτε τῶν συμβεβηκότων. ἔτι εἰ ὁ ὀρισμὸς οὐσίας τινὸς γνωρισμός, τά γε τοιαῦτα φανερόν ὅτι οὐκ οὐσίαι.

Ὅτι μὲν οὖν οὐκ ἔστιν ὀρισμὸς ἅπαντος οὐπὲρ καὶ ἀπόδειξις, δῆλον. τί δαί;<sup>1</sup> οὐ ὀρισμός, ἄρα παντὸς ἀπόδειξις ἔστιν ἢ οὐ; εἰς μὲν δὴ λόγος καὶ 20 περὶ τούτου ὁ αὐτός. τοῦ γὰρ ἐνός, ἢ ἐν, μία ἐπιστήμη. ὥστ' εἶπερ τὸ ἐπίστασθαι τὸ ἀποδεικτόν ἐστι τὸ τὴν ἀπόδειξιν ἔχειν, συμβήσεται τι ἀδύνατον· ὁ γὰρ τὸν ὀρισμὸν ἔχων ἄνευ τῆς ἀποδείξεως ἐπιστήσεται. ἔτι αἱ ἀρχαὶ τῶν ἀποδείξεων 25 ὀρισμοί, ὧν ὅτι οὐκ ἔσονται ἀποδείξεις δέδεικται πρότερον· ἢ ἔσονται αἱ ἀρχαὶ ἀποδεικταὶ καὶ τῶν ἀρχῶν ἀρχαί, καὶ τοῦτ' εἰς ἄπειρον βαδιεῖται, ἢ τὰ πρῶτα ὀρισμοὶ ἔσονται ἀναπόδεικτοι.

Ἄλλ' ἄρα, εἰ μὴ παντὸς τοῦ αὐτοῦ, ἀλλὰ τινὸς τοῦ αὐτοῦ ἔστιν ὀρισμὸς καὶ ἀπόδειξις; ἢ ἀδύνατον; οὐ γὰρ ἔστιν ἀπόδειξις οὐ ὀρισμός. ὀρισμὸς 30 μὲν γὰρ τοῦ τί ἐστι καὶ οὐσίας· αἱ δ' ἀποδείξεις φαίνονται πᾶσαι ὑποτιθέμεναι καὶ λαμβάνουσαι τὸ τί ἐστιν, οἷον αἱ μαθηματικαὶ τί μονὰς καὶ τί τὸ περιττόν, καὶ αἱ ἄλλαι ὁμοίως. ἔτι πᾶσα ἀπόδειξις τι κατὰ τινὸς δείκνυσιν, οἷον ὅτι ἔστιν ἢ οὐκ ἔστιν· 35 ἐν δὲ τῷ ὀρισμῷ οὐδὲν ἕτερον ἐτέρου κατηγορεῖται, οἷον οὔτε τὸ ζῶον κατὰ τοῦ δίποδος οὔτε τοῦτο κατὰ τοῦ ζώου, οὐδὲ δὴ κατὰ τοῦ ἐπιπέδου τὸ

<sup>1</sup> δαί B : δ'. *For a discussion of this passage see*



## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, II. III

cause we never get to know any attribute, whether essential or accidental,<sup>a</sup> by defining it. Also, (4) if definition is the method of getting to know the essence, obviously such attributes are not essences.

Clearly then not everything that is demonstrable is also definable. Very well; is everything that is definable demonstrable, or not? (1) One of the arguments given above also applies here. Of one fact, *qua* one, there is only one knowledge; therefore if to know the demonstrable is to possess the demonstration, an impossible result will follow: the possessor of the definition will have knowledge without possessing the demonstration. (2) The starting-points of demonstrations are definitions, and it has been shown above<sup>b</sup> that of these there can be no demonstration: either the starting-points will be demonstrable, and will have starting-points that are demonstrable, and there will be an infinite regress; or the primary truths will be indemonstrable definitions.

nor is every-  
thing defin-  
able demon-  
strable;

But perhaps some things, if not all, are both definable and demonstrable. Surely this is impossible; because (1) there is no demonstration of the definable. Definition is of the essence or essential nature, and it is obvious that all demonstrations assume the essence as a received fact; *e.g.*, mathematics assumes the nature of unity and oddness, and similarly in the other sciences. (2) Every demonstration proves some predicate of some subject, either affirmatively or negatively; but in a definition nothing is predicated of anything else; "animal" is not predicated of "two-footed" nor *vice versa*, nor is "figure" pre-

in fact,  
nothing  
is both de-  
monstrable  
and  
definable.

<sup>a</sup> Cf. 90 a 11.

<sup>b</sup> 72 b 18-25, 84 a 29-b 2.

90 b

σχῆμα· οὐ γάρ ἐστι τὸ ἐπίπεδον σχῆμα, οὐδὲ τὸ  
 σχῆμα ἐπίπεδον. ἔτι ἕτερον τὸ τί ἐστι καὶ ὅτι ἐστι  
 91 a δειξάι. ὁ μὲν οὖν ὀρισμός τί ἐστι δηλοῖ, ἡ δὲ ἀπό-  
 δειξις ὅτι<sup>1</sup> ἐστὶ τόδε κατὰ τοῦδε ἢ οὐκ ἔστιν.  
 ἑτέρου δὲ ἑτέρα ἀπόδειξις, ἐὰν μὴ ὥς μέρος ἢ τι τῆς  
 ὅλης. τοῦτο δὲ λέγω, ὅτι δέδεικται τὸ ἰσοσκελές  
 5 δύο ὀρθαῖς, εἰ πᾶν τρίγωνον δέδεικται· μέρος γάρ,  
 τὸ δ' ὅλον. ταῦτα δὲ πρὸς ἀλλήλα οὐκ ἔχει οὕτως,  
 τὸ ὅτι ἐστι καὶ τί ἐστίν· οὐ γάρ ἐστι θατέρου  
 θάτερον μέρος.

Φανερόν ἄρα ὅτι οὔτε οὗ ὀρισμός, τούτου παντὸς  
 ἀπόδειξις, οὔτε οὗ ἀπόδειξις, τούτου παντὸς ὀρισ-  
 μός, οὔτε<sup>2</sup> ὅλως τοῦ αὐτοῦ οὐδενὸς ἐνδέχεται ἄμφω  
 10 ἔχειν· ὥστε δηλὸν ὥς οὐδὲ ὀρισμός καὶ ἀπόδειξις  
 οὔτε τὸ αὐτὸ ἂν εἴη οὔτε θάτερον ἐν θατέρῳ· καὶ  
 γὰρ ἂν τὰ ὑποκείμενα ὁμοίως εἶχεν.

IV. Ταῦτα μὲν οὖν μέχρι τούτου διηπορήσθω.  
 τοῦ δὲ τί ἐστι πότερον ἔστι συλλογισμός καὶ ἀπό-  
 δειξις ἢ οὐκ ἔστι, καθάπερ νῦν ὁ λόγος ὑπέθετο;  
 15 ὁ μὲν γὰρ συλλογισμός τί κατὰ τινὸς δείκνυσι διὰ  
 τοῦ μέσου· τὸ δὲ τί ἐστίν ἴδιόν τε καὶ ἐν τῷ τί ἐστι  
 κατηγορεῖται. ταῦτα δ' ἀνάγκη ἀντιστρέφειν. εἰ  
 γὰρ τὸ Α τοῦ Γ ἴδιον, δηλὸν ὅτι καὶ τοῦ Β καὶ  
 τοῦτο τοῦ Γ, ὥστε πάντα ἀλλήλων. ἀλλὰ μὴν

<sup>1</sup> ὅτι ἢ π. <sup>2</sup> Pacius: ὥστε.

<sup>a</sup> By "definition" Aristotle means the complex of genus and differentia (e.g. "two-footed animal" or "plane figure bounded by three straight lines") which is itself predicated of the definiendum.

<sup>b</sup> Aristotle is tiresomely vague in his use of the phrase τί ἐστι, which approximates sometimes to τί ἦν εἶναι, sometimes to ὀρισμός. Here it seems to mean first one and then the other. Cf. note on 73 a 7.

icated of "plane"; a plane is not a figure, nor a figure a plane.<sup>a</sup> (3) To reveal the essence of a thing is not the same as to prove a proposition about it; now definition exhibits the essence, but demonstration proves that an attribute is, or is not, predicated of a subject. Also different things have different demonstrations, unless they are related as part to whole (by this qualification I mean, *e.g.*, that if it is proved that every triangle has the sum of its angles equal to two right angles, this is also proved of the isosceles triangle, "isosceles" being the part and "triangle" the whole). But the proposition and the essence are not so related, because one is not a part of the other.

It is evident, then, that not everything that is definable is demonstrable, and not everything that is demonstrable is definable; and that in no case is it possible to have both definition and demonstration of the same thing. Thus it is clear also that definition and demonstration cannot be the same, and that neither can be included in the other; otherwise their objects would be similarly related.

It follows that demonstration and definition are quite distinct.

IV. The foregoing difficulties may now be regarded as sufficiently stated. But is syllogism or demonstration of the essence possible, or is it impossible, as our discussion assumed just now? Syllogism proves an attribute of a subject through the middle term; but the definition<sup>b</sup> is both (1) peculiar<sup>c</sup> to its subject and (2) predicated as belonging to its essence. Now (1) terms so related must be convertible; for if A is peculiar to C, clearly it is also peculiar to B, and B to C, so that all are peculiar to one another.<sup>d</sup> Further,

Can a definition be proved syllogistically?

<sup>a</sup> Since A and C are co-extensive, B, the middle term, must be co-extensive with them both.

91 a

- καὶ εἰ τὸ Α ἐν τῷ τί ἐστὶν ὑπάρχει παντὶ τῷ Β,  
 20 καὶ καθόλου τὸ Β παντὸς τοῦ Γ ἐν τῷ τί ἐστὶ λέγε-  
 ται, ἀνάγκη καὶ τὸ Α ἐν τῷ τί ἐστὶ τοῦ Γ λέγεσθαι.  
 εἰ δὲ μὴ οὕτω τις λήψεται διπλώσας, οὐκ ἀνάγκη  
 ἔσται τὸ Α τοῦ Γ κατηγορεῖσθαι ἐν τῷ τί ἐστὶν, εἰ  
 τὸ μὲν Α τοῦ Β ἐν τῷ τί ἐστὶν, μὴ καθ' ὅσων δὲ τὸ  
 Β ἐν τῷ τί ἐστὶν. τὸ δὴ τί ἐστὶν ἄμφω ταῦτα ἔξει.  
 25 ἔσται ἄρα καὶ τὸ Β κατὰ τοῦ Γ τὸ τί ἐστὶν. εἰ δὴ  
 τὸ τί ἐστὶ καὶ τὸ τί ἦν εἶναι ἄμφω ἔχει, ἐπὶ τοῦ  
 μέσου ἔσται πρότερον τὸ τί ἦν εἶναι. ὅλως τε, εἰ  
 ἔστι δεῖξαι τί ἐστὶν ἄνθρωπος, ἔστω τὸ Γ ἄνθρω-  
 πος, τὸ δὲ Α τὸ τί ἐστὶν, εἴτε ζῶον δίπουν εἴτ'  
 ἄλλο τι. εἰ τοίνυν συλλογιεῖται, ἀνάγκη κατὰ τοῦ  
 30 Γ<sup>1</sup> τὸ Α παντὸς κατηγορεῖσθαι. τούτου<sup>2</sup> δ' ἔσται  
 ἄλλος λόγος μέσος, ὥστε καὶ τοῦτο ἔσται τί ἐστὶν  
 ἄνθρωπος. λαμβάνει οὖν ὁ δεῖ δεῖξαι· καὶ γὰρ τὸ  
 Β ἔσται<sup>3</sup> τί ἐστὶν ἄνθρωπος. δεῖ δ' ἐν ταῖς δυσὶ  
 προτάσεσι καὶ τοῖς πρώτοις καὶ ἀμέσοις σκοπεῖν.  
 35 μάλιστα γὰρ φανερόν τὸ λεγόμενον γίνεταί. οἱ  
 μὲν οὖν διὰ τοῦ ἀντιστρέφειν δεικνύντες τί ἐστὶ  
 ψυχὴ, ἢ τί ἐστὶν ἄνθρωπος ἢ ἄλλο ὅτιοῦν τῶν  
 ὄντων, τὸ ἐξ ἀρχῆς αἰτοῦνται, οἷον εἴ τις ἀξιώσει  
 ψυχὴν εἶναι τὸ αὐτὸ αὐτῷ αἴτιον τοῦ ζῆν, τοῦτο δ'  
 ἀριθμὸν αὐτὸν αὐτὸν κινοῦντα· ἀνάγκη γὰρ αἰτῆσαι

<sup>1</sup> Γ scripsi : B.<sup>2</sup> τούτου] τοῦτο ci. Bonitz, prob. Ross.<sup>3</sup> ἔσται ci. Bonitz : ἐστὶ codd.

<sup>a</sup> Presumably Aristotle means that the minor premiss (in which B is predicate) will supply the definition, so that we are assuming what we are trying to prove.

<sup>b</sup> It is hard to get a satisfactory sense from the vulgate,



## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, II. IV

(2) if A is an essential attribute of all B, and B is asserted universally and essentially of all C, A must be asserted essentially of C ; but without this double assumption it will not necessarily follow that A is predicated essentially of C—I mean, if A is essentially predicated of B, but B is not essentially true of everything of which it is predicated. So both premisses must state the essence ; therefore B too will be predicated as essence of C. Then since both premisses state the essence or essential nature, the essence will appear in the case of the middle term before it appears in the conclusion.<sup>a</sup> In general, if it is required to prove the essence of “man,” let C be “man” and A the essence—“two-footed animal,” or whatever else it may be. Then if we are to have a syllogism, A must be predicated of all C.<sup>b</sup> But this premiss will be mediated by another definition, so that this too will be the essence of “man.” Thus we are assuming what we are required to prove, since B will also be the essence of “man.” We should consider the case, however, in relation to the two premisses and to primary and immediate connexions ; because this throws most light upon the point that we are discussing. Those who try to prove the essence of “soul” or “man” or anything else by conversion are guilty of *petitio principii*. E.g., suppose that somebody asserts that soul is that which is the cause of its own life, and that this is a self-moving number<sup>c</sup> ; he is necessarily postulating that soul is

Only by a  
*petitio prin-*  
*cipii*.

and Bonitz' τοῦτο, which Ross adopts, seems barely convincing. I have therefore ventured to write Γ for B, which I suppose to be a “correction” made by an editor or copyist who was puzzled by finding B first at l. 31.

<sup>c</sup> Cf. *De Anima* 404 b 29, 408 b 32. The view is ascribed to Xenocrates by Plutarch, *Moralia* 1012 D.

91 b τὴν ψυχὴν ὅπερ ἀριθμὸν εἶναι αὐτὸν αὐτὸν κινουῦντα,  
οὕτως ὡς τὸ αὐτὸ ὄν. οὐ γὰρ εἰ ἀκολουθεῖ τὸ Α  
τῷ Β καὶ τοῦτο τῷ Γ, ἔσται τῷ Γ τὸ Α τὸ τί ἦν  
εἶναι, ἀλλ' ἀληθές<sup>1</sup> εἰπεῖν ἔσται μόνον· οὐδ' εἰ ἔστι  
τὸ Α ὅπερ τι καὶ κατὰ τοῦ Β κατηγορεῖται παντός.  
5 καὶ γὰρ τὸ ζῶν εἶναι κατηγορεῖται κατὰ τοῦ ἀν-  
θρώπου εἶναι· ἀληθές γὰρ πᾶν τὸ ἀνθρώπου εἶναι  
ζῶν εἶναι, ὥσπερ καὶ πάντα ἀνθρωπὸν ζῶν, ἀλλ'  
οὐχ οὕτως ὥστε ἓν εἶναι. ἐὰν μὲν οὖν μὴ οὕτω  
λάβῃ, οὐ συλλογιεῖται ὅτι τὸ Α ἐστὶ τῷ Γ τὸ τί ἦν  
εἶναι καὶ ἡ οὐσία· ἐὰν δὲ οὕτω λάβῃ, πρότερον  
10 ἔσται εἰληφὼς τῷ Γ τί ἐστὶ τὸ τί ἦν εἶναι [τὸ Β].<sup>2</sup>  
ὥστ' οὐκ ἀποδέδεικται· τὸ γὰρ ἐν ἀρχῇ εἴληφεν.

V. Ἀλλὰ μὴν οὐδ' ἡ διὰ τῶν διαιρέσεων ὁδὸς  
συλλογίζεται, καθάπερ ἐν τῇ ἀναλύσει τῇ περὶ τὰ  
σχήματα εἴρηται. οὐδαμοῦ γὰρ ἀνάγκη γίνεται  
15 τὸ πρᾶγμα ἐκείνο εἶναι τῶνδ' ὄντων, ἀλλ' ὥσ-  
περ οὐδ' ὁ ἐπάγων ἀποδείκνυσιν. οὐ γὰρ δεῖ τὸ  
συμπέρασμα ἐρωτᾶν, οὐδὲ τῷ δοῦναι εἶναι, ἀλλ'  
ἀνάγκη εἶναι ἐκείνων ὄντων, καὶ μὴ φῆ ὁ ἀποκρι-  
νόμενος. ἀρ' ὁ ἀνθρωπος ζῶν ἢ ἄψυχον; εἴτ'  
ἔλαβε ζῶν, οὐ συλλελόγισται. πάλιν ἅπαν ζῶν  
20 ἢ πεζὸν ἢ ἐνυδρον· ἔλαβε πεζόν. καὶ τὸ εἶναι τὸν  
ἀνθρωπον τὸ ὅλον, ζῶν πεζόν, οὐκ ἀνάγκη ἐκ τῶν  
εἰρημένων, ἀλλὰ λαμβάνει καὶ τοῦτο. διαφέρει δ'

<sup>1</sup> ἀληθές n, Eustratius (?): ἀληθές ἦν.

<sup>2</sup> secl. Ross.

## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, II. IV-V

essentially a self-moving number in the sense of being identical with it. For if A is a consequent of B, and B of C, A will not be the essence of C—it will only be true to predicate it of C ; nor (will A be the essence of C) if A is predicated of all B as genus of species. Animality is predicated of all humanity, because it is true that all humanity is a species of animality, just as it is true that every man is an animal ; but not in the sense that they are identical. Thus unless the premisses are taken in the way that we have described, it cannot be inferred that A is the essence or real nature of C ; and if they are so taken, it will have been already assumed what the essence of C is. Therefore the conclusion is not proved, because there has been *petitio principii*.

V. Nor again does the method of division lead to a conclusion, as has been explained in my logical analysis of the figures.<sup>a</sup> At no stage do we find the logical necessity that, given certain conditions, the object must have the required definition ; the process is just as inconclusive as induction. The conclusion must not be a question, nor stand by concession only ; it must follow necessarily from the premisses, even if the respondent rejects it. (The exponent of division asks) “ Is ‘ man ’ animate or inanimate ? ” and then assumes “ animate ” ; it is not the result of inference. Next “ every animal is either terrestrial or aquatic,” and he assumes “ terrestrial.” It does not follow necessarily from stated premisses that “ man ” is the whole expression, “ terrestrial animal ” ; he assumes this too. (It makes no differ-

A definition cannot be proved by division, for this *proves* nothing,

<sup>a</sup> *An. Pr.* I. xxxi. The Platonic method of division is illustrated in *Sophist* 219 A ff., *Politicus* 258 B ff. For Aristotle's view of the proper use of division see chs. xiii and xiv.

91 b

οὐδέν ἐπὶ πολλῶν ἢ ὀλίγων οὕτω ποιεῖν· τὸ αὐτὸ γάρ ἐστιν. ἀσυλλόγιστος μὲν οὖν καὶ ἡ χρῆσις γίγνεται τοῖς οὕτω μετιοῦσι καὶ τῶν ἐνδεχομένων  
 25 συλλογισθῆναι. τί γὰρ κωλύει τοῦτο ἀληθὲς μὲν τὸ πᾶν εἶναι κατὰ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου, μὴ μέντοι τὸ τί ἐστι μὴδὲ τὸ τί ἦν εἶναι δηλοῦν; ἔτι τί κωλύει ἢ προσθεῖναι τι ἢ ἀφελεῖν ἢ ὑπερβεβηκέναι τῆς οὐσίας;

Ταῦτα μὲν οὖν παρίεται μὲν, ἐνδέχεται δὲ λῦσαι τῷ λαμβάνειν τὰ ἐν τῷ τί ἐστι πάντα, καὶ τὸ  
 30 ἐφεξῆς τῇ διαιρέσει ποιεῖν, αἰτούμενον τὸ πρῶτον, καὶ μὴδὲν παραλείπειν. τοῦτο δὲ ἀναγκαῖον, εἰ ἅπαν εἰς τὴν διαίρεσιν ἐμπίπτει καὶ μὴδὲν ἐλλείπει· [τοῦτο δ' ἀναγκαῖον,]<sup>1</sup> ἄτομον γὰρ ἤδη δεῖ εἶναι.

Ἄλλὰ συλλογισμὸς ὅμως οὐκ ἔνεστιν,<sup>2</sup> ἀλλ' εἶπερ, ἄλλον τρόπον γνωρίζειν ποιεῖ. καὶ τοῦτο μὲν οὐδέν  
 35 ἄτοπον· οὐδὲ γὰρ ὁ ἐπάγων ἴσως ἀποδείκνυσιν, ἀλλ' ὅμως δηλοῖ τι. συλλογισμὸν δ' οὐ λέγει ὁ ἐκ τῆς διαιρέσεως λέγων τὸν ὅρισμόν· ὥσπερ γὰρ ἐν τοῖς συμπεράσμασι τοῖς ἄνευ τῶν μέσων, εἴαν τις εἴπῃ ὅτι τούτων ὄντων ἀνάγκη τοδὶ εἶναι, ἐνδέχεται ἐρωτῆσαι διὰ τί, οὕτως καὶ ἐν τοῖς διαιρητικοῖς  
 92 a ὅροις. τί ἐστιν ἄνθρωπος; ζῶον, θνητόν, ὑπόπουν, δίπουν, ἄπτερον. διὰ τί; παρ' ἐκάστην πρόσθε-  
 σιν· ἐρεῖ γάρ, καὶ δείξει τῇ διαιρέσει, ὡς οἴεται, ὅτι

<sup>1</sup> secl. Waitz.<sup>2</sup> ἔνεστιν] ἔστι n, Philoponus, Ross.

<sup>a</sup> i.e., including a non-essential or passing over an essential element in the definition.

<sup>b</sup> i.e., the next widest.



## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS,\* II. v

ence whether the process involves many steps or few; the position is just the same.) Indeed the method, when used in this way, fails to draw even those inferences that are available. It is quite possible that the whole expression should be truly predicable of "man," and yet not exhibit the essence or essential nature of man. Besides, what is there to prevent the division from adding something, or omitting something,<sup>a</sup> or missing out a step in the definition of the real nature?

These defects are usually ignored, but they can be dealt with by (a) taking at each stage only elements in the essence, (b) dividing consecutively, always postulating the first<sup>b</sup> <differentia>, and (c) leaving out nothing. This result is bound to follow if the term to be defined is entirely covered by the division <at each stage>, without any omission; for the process must lead directly to a term that requires no further division.

though it  
can be used  
systemati-  
cally.

Even so, however, there is no inference in the process; if it conveys any knowledge to us, it does so in a different way. There is nothing abnormal in this, since presumably induction too *proves* nothing, but nevertheless it gives us some information. But in selecting the definition by means of division one does not state a logical inference. As in the case of conclusions reached without the use of middle terms, if it is stated that, given certain conditions, such-and-such must follow, one is entitled to ask "Why?", so too in definitions reached by division. What is man? An animate being—mortal—footed—two-footed—wingless. At every added predicate one may ask "Why?"; because the divider can state, and prove (as he supposes) by his division, that everything

The results  
of division  
are not  
reached by  
inference.

92 a

πάν ἢ θνητὸν ἢ ἀθάνατον. ὁ δὲ τοιοῦτος λόγος  
 ἅπας οὐκ ἔστιν ὀρισμός, ὥστ' εἰ καὶ ἀπεδείκνυτο  
 5 τῇ διαιρέσει, ἀλλ' ὁ γ' ὀρισμὸς οὐ συλλογισμὸς  
 γίγνεται.

VI. Ἄλλ' ἄρα ἔστι καὶ ἀποδείξαι τὸ τί ἐστι κατ'  
 οὐσίαν, ἐξ ὑποθέσεως δέ, λαβόντα τὸ μὲν τί ἦν εἶναι  
 τὸ ἐκ τῶν ἐν τῷ τί ἐστίν ἴδιον,<sup>1</sup> ταδὶ δὲ ἐν τῷ τί  
 ἐστι μόνα, καὶ ἴδιον τὸ πάν; τοῦτο γάρ ἐστι τὸ  
 10 εἶναι ἐκείνω. ἢ πάλιν εἴληφε τὸ τί ἦν εἶναι καὶ ἐν  
 τούτῳ; ἀνάγκη γὰρ διὰ τοῦ μέσου δεῖξαι. ἔτι  
 ὥσπερ οὐδ' ἐν συλλογισμῷ λαμβάνεται τί ἐστι τὸ  
 συλλελογίσθαι (ἀεὶ γὰρ ὅλη ἢ μέρος ἢ πρότασις, ἐξ  
 ὧν ὁ συλλογισμὸς), οὕτως οὐδὲ τὸ τί ἦν εἶναι δεῖ  
 ἐνεῖναι ἐν τῷ συλλογισμῷ, ἀλλὰ χωρὶς τοῦτο τῶν  
 15 κειμένων εἶναι, καὶ πρὸς τὸν ἀμφισβητοῦντα εἰ συλ-  
 λελόγισται ἢ μή, τοῦτο ἀπαντᾷ ὅτι “ τοῦτο γὰρ  
 ἦν συλλογισμὸς ”· καὶ πρὸς τὸν ὅτι οὐ τὸ τί ἦν  
 εἶναι συλλελόγισται, ὅτι “ ναί· τοῦτο γὰρ ἔκειτο  
 ἡμῖν τὸ τί ἦν εἶναι.” ὥστε ἀνάγκη καὶ ἄνευ τοῦ  
 τί συλλογισμὸς ἢ τὸ<sup>2</sup> τί ἦν εἶναι συλλελογίσθαι τι.  
 20 Καὶν ἐξ ὑποθέσεως δὲ δεικνύη, οἷον εἰ τὸ<sup>3</sup> κακῷ

<sup>1</sup> ἴδιον Pacius, Ross : ἰδίον.

<sup>2</sup> τὸ] τοῦ Bn. <sup>3</sup> τὸ] τῷ Adn<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>a</sup> Which is here lacking, the minor premiss being a mere *petitio principii*. The hypothetical proof rejected here is used in *Top.* 153 a ff., but dialectically (cf. Cherniss, *Aristotle's Criticism of Plato and the Academy*, i. 34-6, note 28).

<sup>b</sup> Aristotle is thinking of the first figure (which alone is

## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, II. v-vi

is either mortal or immortal ; but such a proposition, taken as a whole, is not a definition. Thus even if the proposition could be proved by division, the definition still does not amount to a logical inference.

VI. It may be suggested, however, that it is actually possible to demonstrate the essential definition of a subject hypothetically by assuming that the definition consists of the elements in the essence, and is peculiar to the subject ; and that this and that are the only elements in the essence ; and that the aggregate of them is peculiar to the subject, because this aggregate represents its essential nature. But (1) surely in this <minor premiss> the definition has once more been *assumed* ; because proof must proceed through a middle term.<sup>a</sup> (2) Just as in a syllogism we do not assume <as a premiss> the definition of syllogism (since the premisses from which the conclusion is drawn are always related as whole and part<sup>b</sup>), so neither must the definition of definition appear in the syllogism<sup>c</sup>—it must be something apart from the premisses laid down ; and when an opponent disputes whether there has been syllogistic proof or not, we should <be able to> answer “ Yes, because we agreed that that is what syllogism is ” ; and if one objects that the syllogism has not proved the definition, “ Yes, because that is what definition was assumed to be.” Thus we must have already drawn some inference without <using as a premiss> the definition of syllogism or of definition.<sup>d</sup>

One suggested method of proving a definition not only assumes the essence, but improperly assumes the definition of definition as a premiss.

Equally invalid is proof from a hypothesis in the (Another useful for establishing scientific facts) where the relation is normally genus : species or species : sub-species.

<sup>c</sup> Sc. by which we hope to prove a particular definition.

<sup>d</sup> Sc., before appealing to the said definition, which is a pre-condition, not a part, of the argument.

ἐστὶ τὸ διαιρετῶ εἶναι, τὸ<sup>1</sup> δ' ἐναντίῳ τὸ τῶ  
ἐναντίῳ <ἐναντίῳ><sup>2</sup> εἶναι, ὅσοις ἔστι τι ἐναντίον·  
τὸ δ' ἀγαθὸν τῶ κακῶ ἐναντίον καὶ τὸ ἀδιαίρετον  
τῶ διαιρετῶ· ἔστιν ἄρα τὸ ἀγαθῶ εἶναι τὸ ἀδιαί-  
ρετῶ εἶναι. καὶ γὰρ ἐνταῦθα λαβὼν τὸ τί ἦν εἶναι  
25 δείκνυσι· λαμβάνει δ' εἰς τὸ δεῖξαι τὸ τί ἦν εἶναι.  
ἕτερον μέντοι· ἔστω· καὶ γὰρ ἐν ταῖς ἀποδείξεσιν,  
ὅτι ἐστὶ τόδε κατὰ τοῦδε ἀλλὰ μὴ αὐτό, μηδὲ οὐ ὁ  
αὐτὸς λόγος, καὶ ἀντιστρέφει.

Πρὸς ἀμφοτέρους δέ, τὸν τε κατὰ διαίρεσιν δεικ-  
νύντα καὶ πρὸς τὸν οὕτω συλλογισμόν, τὸ αὐτὸ  
30 ἀπόρημα· διὰ τί ἔσται ὁ ἄνθρωπος ζῶον [δίπουν]<sup>3</sup>  
πεζόν, ἀλλ' οὐ ζῶον καὶ πεζόν; ἐκ γὰρ τῶν λαμ-  
βανομένων οὐδεμία ἀνάγκη ἐστὶν ἐν γίνεσθαι τὸ  
κατηγορούμενον, ἀλλ' ὥσπερ ἂν ἄνθρωπος ὁ αὐτὸς  
εἴη μουσικὸς καὶ γραμματικὸς.

VII. Πῶς οὖν δὴ ὁ ὀριζόμενος δείξει τὴν οὐσίαν  
35 ἢ τὸ τί ἐστίν; οὔτε γὰρ ὡς ἀποδεικνὺς ἐξ ὁμολο-  
γούμενων εἶναι δῆλον ποιήσει ὅτι ἀνάγκη ἐκείνων  
ὄντων ἕτερόν τι εἶναι (ἀπόδειξις γὰρ τοῦτο), οὔθ'  
ὡς ὁ ἐπάγων διὰ τῶν καθ' ἕκαστα δῆλων ὄντων,

<sup>1</sup> τὸ Bonitz: τῶ.

<sup>2</sup> ἐναντίῳ add. Bonitz.

<sup>3</sup> δίπουν seclusi: δίπουν πεζόν codd.: πεζόν δίπουν comm.,  
Ross, qui post καὶ πεζόν add. καὶ δίπουν.

<sup>a</sup> This method of proof, ἐκ τοῦ ἐναντίου, is illustrated and  
discussed in *Topics* 153 a 26–b 24 and 147 a 29–b 25 (where  
it is criticized as in the present passage). It was freely used  
in the Academy; cf. Cherniss, *op. cit.* i. 36–38.

<sup>b</sup> Speusippus' view; for the evidence see Cherniss, *loc. cit.*

<sup>c</sup> Viz., that of the subject's contrary.

<sup>d</sup> The major term.

<sup>e</sup> To secure consistency we must either bracket δίπουν  
here or add καὶ δίπουν in l. 30. The former course seems



## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, II. VI-VII

following way <sup>a</sup>: If evil is definable as divisibility, <sup>b</sup> assumes a term correlative with the essence. and if any term that has a contrary is definable by the contrary of that contrary's definition, and if good is contrary to evil, and indivisibility to divisibility, then goodness is definable as indivisibility. Here too the proof first assumes the definition, and assumes it to prove the definition. "But it is a different definition." <sup>c</sup> Granted, (but the objection still holds,) because in demonstrations too we assume that one term is predicable of another, but it <sup>d</sup> must not be the very term (that is to be proved), nor one which has the same definition or rather is correlative with it.

Both the opponent who attempts proof by division and the one who offers syllogism in this form have to face the same difficulty: why should "man" be "terrestrial animal" <sup>e</sup> and not "terrestrial" and "animal"? There is nothing in the assumptions to make it necessary that the predicate should be a unity, and not (consist of non-essential attributes), as the same man may be musical and literary. <sup>f</sup>

VII. How then can the person who is trying to define prove the essence or definition? (1) He cannot exhibit deductively from admitted facts that, given these facts, a conclusion distinct from them must follow—that is demonstration; nor can he show inductively by enumeration of manifest particular instances that every case is like this, because none

None of these proofs shows that the definition is a unity.

How can one prove the essence? (1) If neither deductively nor inductively, how else?

better. Only two attributes are required, and I believe *δίπουν* to be an intruder from the parallel passages in *Met.* 1037 b 11 ff., 1045 a 14 ff., where the attributes are *ζῶον* and *δίπουν*. The fact that the commentators have *δίπουν* after *πεζόν* may point the same way, since an added word is always liable to displacement.

<sup>1</sup> Cf. *Met. locc. cit.* Aristotle gives his own solution of the "difficulty" in the latter passage.

92 b ὅτι πᾶν οὕτως τῷ μηδέν ἄλλως· οὐ γὰρ τί ἐστὶ δείκνυσιν, ἀλλ' ὅτι ἢ ἔστιν ἢ οὐκ ἔστιν. τίς οὖν ἄλλος τρόπος λοιπός; οὐ γὰρ δὴ δείξει γε τῇ αἰσθήσει ἢ τῷ δακτύλῳ.

Ἔτι πῶς δείξει τὸ τί ἐστίν; ἀνάγκη γὰρ τὸν  
5 εἰδότα τὸ τί ἐστίν ἀνθρωπος ἢ ἄλλο ὅτιοῦν, εἰδέναι καὶ ὅτι ἔστιν· τὸ γὰρ μὴ ὄν οὐδεὶς οἶδεν ὅτι ἐστίν, ἀλλὰ τί μὲν σημαίνει ὁ λόγος ἢ τὸ ὄνομα, ὅταν εἴπω τραγέλαφος, τί δ' ἐστὶ τραγέλαφος ἀδύνατον εἰδέναι. ἀλλὰ μὴν εἰ δείξει τί ἐστὶ καὶ ὅτι ἔστι, πῶς τῷ αὐτῷ λόγῳ δείξει; ὁ τε γὰρ ὁρισμὸς ἐν  
10 τι δηλοῖ καὶ ἡ ἀπόδειξις· τὸ δὲ τί ἐστίν ἀνθρωπος καὶ τὸ εἶναι ἀνθρωπον ἄλλο.

Εἰτα καὶ δι' ἀποδείξεώς φαμεν ἀναγκαῖον εἶναι δείκνυσθαι ἅπαν ὅτι ἔστιν, εἰ μὴ οὐσία εἴη. τὸ δ' εἶναι οὐκ οὐσία οὐδενί· οὐ γὰρ γένος τὸ ὄν. ἀπό-  
15 δεξις ἄρ' ἔσται ὅτι ἔστιν. ὅπερ καὶ νῦν ποιοῦσιν αἱ ἐπιστῆμαι· τί μὲν γὰρ σημαίνει τὸ τρίγωνον, ἔλαβεν ὁ γεωμέτρης, ὅτι δ' ἔστι, δείκνυσιν. τί οὖν δείξει ὁ ὀριζόμενος τί ἐστίν; ἢ<sup>1</sup> τὸ τρίγωνον; εἰδὼς ἄρα τις ὀρισμῷ τί ἐστίν, εἰ ἔστιν οὐκ εἴσεται. ἀλλ' ἀδύνατον.

Φανερόν δὲ καὶ κατὰ τοὺς νῦν τρόπους τῶν

<sup>1</sup> τί ἐστίν; ἢ] ἢ τί ἐστὶ Ross.

<sup>a</sup> Strictly "goat-deer," a type of fabulous animal; cf. *An. Pr.* 49 a 24.

<sup>b</sup> It is hard to accept Ross's ὅτι ἐστίν. Aristotle could not, like a modern editor, make his meaning plain by spacing and accentuation; and without these aids, in such a context, the phrase would have been quite misleading. In b 6 above, on the other hand, the sense is sufficiently obvious.

is otherwise ; for this does not prove *what* the subject is, but the *fact* that it is, or is not. What other way then remains ? because he cannot presumably prove (the definition) by reference to sense-perception, or point to it with his finger.

(2) How can one prove the essence ? Anyone who knows *what* "man" or any other thing is must also know *that* it is ; because no one knows *what* a non-existent thing is. (He may know the meaning of a phrase, or of a name if, *e.g.*, I speak of a unicorn <sup>a</sup> ; but it is impossible to know *what* a unicorn is.) But (a) if it is proposed to prove *what* a thing is and *that* it is, how can they be proved by the same argument ? Both definition and demonstration give us *one* piece of information ; but *what* man is and *that* man is are two different things.

(b) Again, we hold that it is by demonstration that everything must be proved to exist,<sup>b</sup> except essence ; and existence is not the essence of anything, because being is not a genus.<sup>c</sup> So there will be demonstration *that* a thing is. This is how the sciences actually proceed ; the geometrician assumes what "triangle" means, but proves that the triangle exists.<sup>d</sup> Of what, then, will the definer exhibit *what* it is <sup>e</sup> ? The triangle ? Then one will know by definition *what* a thing is without knowing that it exists ; but this is impossible.

(c) It is evident also from the methods of defining now in use that those who define do not prove the

<sup>a</sup> Cf. *Met.* 998 b 22 ff.

<sup>d</sup> *i.e.*, proves it as an attribute ; cf. 71 a 14, 76 a 35, 93 b 31.

<sup>e</sup> Understood in this way the vulgate gives quite a good sense ; and although the commentators give some support to Ross's transposition, I question its necessity.

(2) Knowledge of essence implies knowledge of existence ; but (a) both cannot be proved by the same argument,

(b) if the proofs are distinct, we can have one without the other,

(c) definition as practised

92 b

20 ὁρῶν ὡς οὐ δεικνύουσιν οἱ ὀριζόμενοι ὅτι ἔστιν.  
εἰ γὰρ καὶ ἔστιν ἐκ τοῦ μέσου τι<sup>1</sup> ἴσον, ἀλλὰ διὰ τί  
ἔστι τὸ ὀρισθέν; καὶ διὰ τί τοῦτ' ἔστι κύκλος;  
εἴη γὰρ ἂν καὶ ὀρειχάλκου φάναι εἶναι αὐτόν. οὔτε  
γὰρ ὅτι δυνατόν εἶναι τὸ λεγόμενον προσδηλοῦσιν οἱ  
ὅροι οὔτε ὅτι ἐκείνο οὐ φασὶν εἶναι ὀρισμοί, ἀλλ'  
25 αἰεὶ ἔξεστι λέγειν τὸ διὰ τί.

Εἰ ἄρα ὁ ὀριζόμενος δείκνυσιν ἢ τί ἐστίν ἢ τί  
σημαίνει τοῦνομα, εἰ μὴ ἔστι μηδαμῶς τοῦ τί ἐστίν,  
εἴη ἂν ὁ ὀρισμὸς λόγος ὀνόματι τὸ αὐτὸ σημαίνων.  
ἀλλ' ἄτοπον. πρῶτον μὲν γὰρ καὶ μὴ οὐσιῶν ἂν  
30 εἴη καὶ τῶν μὴ ὄντων σημαίνειν γὰρ ἔστι καὶ τὰ  
μὴ ὄντα. ἔτι πάντες οἱ λόγοι ὀρισμοὶ ἂν εἴεν· εἴη  
γὰρ ἂν ὄνομα θέσθαι ὀποιῶσιν λόγῳ, ὥστε ὅρους  
ἂν διαλεγόμεθα πάντες καὶ ἡ Ἰλιάς ὀρισμὸς ἂν εἴη.  
ἔτι οὐδεμία ἀποδείξις<sup>2</sup> ἀποδείξειεν<sup>3</sup> ἂν ὅτι τοῦτο  
τοῦνομα τουτὶ δηλοῖ· οὐδ' οἱ ὀρισμοὶ τοίνυν τοῦτο  
προσδηλοῦσιν.

35 Ἐκ μὲν τοίνυν τούτων οὔτε ὀρισμὸς καὶ συλ-  
λογισμὸς φαίνεται ταῦτόν ὄν, οὔτε ταύτου συλλο-  
γισμὸς καὶ ὀρισμὸς· πρὸς δὲ τούτοις, ὅτι οὔτε ὁ  
ὀρισμὸς οὐδὲν οὔτε ἀποδείκνυσιν οὔτε δείκνυσιν,  
οὔτε τὸ τί ἐστίν οὐθ' ὀρισμῶ οὐτ' ἀποδείξει ἔστι  
γνῶναι.

93 a VIII. Πάλιν δὲ σκεπτέον τί τούτων λέγεται

<sup>1</sup> τι] τὸ B, Bekker.

<sup>2</sup> ἀπόδειξις d: om. AB: ἐπιστήμη B<sup>2n</sup>.

<sup>3</sup> εἴεν d.

<sup>a</sup> Viz., a line; the reference is to a crude definition of a circle.

<sup>b</sup> Or "non-essences." In an aporetic passage it is not



## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, II. VII-VIII

existence of the definiendum. Even supposing that there is something <sup>a</sup> equidistant from the centre, why does the object so defined exist? and why is it a circle? One might equally well assert that it is the definition of mountain-copper. Definitions do not include evidence that it is possible for what they describe to exist, nor that it is identical with that which they claim to define. It is always possible to ask *why*.

proves  
neither  
existence  
nor its own  
validity.

Thus since in defining one exhibits either what the object is or what its name means, if definition is in no sense of the essence, it must be an expression meaning the same as a name. But this is absurd.

It is no  
solution to  
say that  
definition  
merely ex-  
plains the  
name.

(1) In the first place, there would be definition not only of non-substances <sup>b</sup> but also of non-existents; because even these can have a significant name. (2) All expressions would be definitions, because a name could be attached to any one of them; so we should all converse in formulae, and the *Iliad* would be a definition.<sup>c</sup> (3) No demonstration can prove that a given name has a given meaning; therefore neither do definitions (in establishing the meaning of a term) furnish evidence also that the name has a given meaning.

These considerations make it clear that definition is not the same as syllogism, and that they have not the same objects. It is also clear that definition neither demonstrates nor exhibits anything; and that neither by definition nor by demonstration can we acquire knowledge of the essence.

Conclusions  
from the  
arguments  
of chs. iii-  
vii.

VIII. We must now review what we have said above, and consider which of the arguments are valid

easy to be certain from what standpoint Aristotle is arguing.

<sup>c</sup> Cf. *Met.* 1030 a 7 ff.

καλῶς καὶ τί οὐ καλῶς, καὶ τί ἐστὶν ὁ ὁρισμός, καὶ τοῦ τί ἐστὶν ἀρά πως ἐστὶν ἀπόδειξις καὶ ὁρισμός ἢ οὐδαμῶς.

Ἐπεὶ δ' ἐστὶν, ὥς ἔφαμεν, ταῦτόν τὸ εἰδέναι τί  
 5 ἐστὶ καὶ τὸ εἰδέναι τὸ αἷτιον τοῦ εἰ<sup>1</sup> ἐστὶ (λόγος δὲ τούτου ὅτι ἐστὶ τι τὸ αἷτιον· καὶ τοῦτο ἢ τὸ αὐτὸ ἢ ἄλλο, καὶ ἢ ἄλλο, ἢ ἀποδεικτὸν ἢ ἀναπόδεικτον)— εἰ τοίνυν ἐστὶν ἄλλο καὶ ἐνδέχεται ἀποδείξαι, ἀνάγκη μέσον εἶναι τὸ αἷτιον καὶ ἐν τῷ σχήματι τῷ πρώτῳ δείκνυσθαι· καθόλου τε γὰρ καὶ κατηγορικὸν τὸ δεικνύμενον.

10 Εἰς μὲν δὴ τρόπος ἂν εἴη ὁ νῦν ἐξητασμένος, τὸ δι' ἄλλου τὸ τί ἐστὶ δείκνυσθαι. τῶν τε γὰρ τί ἐστὶν ἀνάγκη τὸ μέσον εἶναι τί ἐστὶ, καὶ τῶν ἰδίων ἰδιον· ὥστε τὸ μὲν δείξει, τὸ δ' οὐ δείξει τῶν τί ἦν εἶναι τῷ αὐτῷ πράγματι.

Οὗτος μὲν οὖν ὁ τρόπος ὅτι οὐκ ἂν εἴη ἀπόδειξις,  
 15 εἴρηται πρότερον· ἀλλ' ἐστὶ λογικὸς συλλογισμὸς τοῦ τί ἐστὶν. ὃν δὲ τρόπον ἐνδέχεται λέγωμεν, εἰπόντες πάλιν ἐξ ἀρχῆς. ὥσπερ γὰρ τὸ διότι ζητούμεν ἔχοντες τὸ ὅτι, ἐνίοτε δὲ καὶ ἅμα δῆλα γίγνεται, ἀλλ' οὔτι πρότερόν γε τὸ διότι δυνατόν γνωρίσαι τοῦ ὅτι, δῆλον ὅτι ὁμοίως καὶ τὸ τί ἦν  
 20 εἶναι οὐκ ἄνευ τοῦ ὅτι ἐστὶν. ἀδύνατον γὰρ εἰδέναι τί ἐστὶν ἀγνοοῦντας εἰ ἐστὶν. τὸ δ' εἰ ἐστὶν ὅτε μὲν

<sup>1</sup> εἰ AB<sup>2</sup>d : τί Bn.

<sup>a</sup> In ch. ii.

<sup>b</sup> Substance has no cause other than its own form ; that which has an external cause is an attribute or event. It is with these latter that the following chapters are chiefly concerned.

## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, II. VIII

and which are not; and what definition is; and whether the essence is in any sense demonstrable and definable, or not at all.

As we have said above,<sup>a</sup> to know what a thing is is the same as to know the cause of its existence; and the reason for this is that the thing has a definite cause, which is either identical with it or distinct from it,<sup>b</sup> and which, if distinct, is either demonstrable<sup>c</sup> or indemonstrable. Then if this cause is distinct and can be demonstrated, it must be a middle term, and be proved in the first figure; for <only> in this is the proved connexion universal and affirmative.

Now one way of employing such a proof will be the method which we criticized just now,<sup>d</sup> of proving one definition by another. For the middle term through which essences are inferred must itself be essence, and that through which peculiar attributes are inferred must be a peculiar attribute. Thus for the self-same subject one statement of its essential nature will be proved and one will not.

It has been observed above<sup>e</sup> that this method cannot have the force of a demonstration; it is only a dialectical inference of the essence. Let us now make a fresh start and explain in what way demonstration is possible. It is when we are sure of the *fact* that we look for the *reason*; sometimes we become aware of them simultaneously, but it is quite impossible to recognize the reason before the fact. Clearly in the same way the essential nature implies the fact; it is impossible to know *what* a thing is if we do not know whether it exists. Now we may be

To know  
*what* a thing  
is we must  
grasp  
clearly *that*  
it is.

<sup>c</sup> Not demonstrable itself, but serviceable for demonstration, *i.e.*, for explaining the attribute or event.

<sup>d</sup> 91 a 14-b 11.

<sup>e</sup> 91 b 10.

93 a

κατὰ σύμβεβηκός ἔχομεν, ὅτε δ' ἔχοντές τι αὐτοῦ  
 τοῦ πράγματος, οἷον βροντήν, ὅτι ψόφος τις νέφῳ,  
 καὶ ἔκλειψιν, ὅτι στέρησις τις φωτός, καὶ ἄνθρω-  
 πον, ὅτι ζῶόν τι, καὶ ψυχὴν, ὅτι αὐτὸ αὐτὸ κινοῦν.  
 25 ὅσα μὲν οὖν κατὰ σύμβεβηκός οἶδαμεν ὅτι ἔστιν,  
 ἀναγκαῖον μηδαμῶς ἔχειν πρὸς τὸ τί ἐστίν· οὐδὲ  
 γὰρ ὅτι ἔστιν ἴσμεν· τὸ δὲ ζητεῖν τί ἐστὶ μὴ ἔχοντας  
 ὅτι ἔστι, μηδὲν ζητεῖν ἐστίν. καθ' ὅσων δ' ἔχομέν  
 τι, ῥᾶον. ὥστε ὡς ἔχομεν ὅτι ἔστιν, οὕτως ἔχομεν  
 καὶ πρὸς τὸ τί ἐστίν.

Ἦν οὖν ἔχομέν τι τοῦ τί ἐστίν, ἔστω πρῶτον μὲν  
 30 ὧδε· ἔκλειψις ἐφ' οὗ τὸ Α, σελήνη ἐφ' οὗ Γ,  
 ἀντίφραξις γῆς ἐφ' οὗ Β. τὸ μὲν οὖν πότερον ἐκ-  
 λείπει ἢ οὐ, τὸ Β ζητεῖν ἐστίν, ἅρ' ἔστιν ἢ οὐ.  
 τοῦτο δ' οὐδὲν διαφέρει ζητεῖν ἢ εἰ ἔστι λόγος αὐ-  
 τοῦ· καὶ ἐὰν ᾗ τοῦτο, καὶ ἐκείνὸ φάμεν εἶναι. ἢ  
 ποτέρας τῆς ἀντιφάσεώς ἐστίν ὁ λόγος, πότερον  
 35 τοῦ ἔχειν δύο ὀρθὰς ἢ τοῦ μὴ ἔχειν. ὅταν δ' εὕρω-  
 μεν, ἅμα τὸ ὅτι καὶ τὸ διότι ἴσμεν, ἂν δι' ἀμέσων<sup>1</sup>  
 ᾗ. εἰ δὲ μή, τὸ ὅτι, τὸ διότι δ' οὐ. σελήνη Γ,  
 ἔκλειψις Α, τὸ πανσελήνου σκιὰν μὴ δύνασθαι  
 ποιεῖν μηδενὸς ἡμῶν μεταξὺ ὄντος φανεροῦ, ἐφ' οὗ  
 Β. εἰ τοίνυν τῷ Γ ὑπάρχει τὸ Β τὸ μὴ δύνασθαι  
 93 b ποιεῖν σκιὰν μηδενὸς μεταξὺ ἡμῶν ὄντος, τούτῳ

<sup>1</sup> δι' ἀμέσων ἢ : διὰ μέσων.

<sup>a</sup> i.e., on the ground of some non-essential connexion.

<sup>b</sup> Plato's view: cf. *Phaedrus* 245 c ff., *Laws* 895 E. If Aristotle is here assuming Xenocrates' definition of soul (91 a 37 *supra*), all four examples illustrate knowledge of the genus without knowledge of the differentia.

<sup>c</sup> Here the "grasp" is so good that the true reason is



## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, II. VIII

aware of a thing's existence either accidentally <sup>a</sup> or because we have some grasp of the thing itself, *e.g.*, that thunder is a noise in the clouds, that an eclipse is a privation of light, that man is a kind of animal, and that soul is self-moving.<sup>b</sup> When our knowledge of the thing's existence is only accidental we cannot be in any position to grasp what the thing is, because we do not even *know* that it exists; and to inquire what a thing is when we are not sure that it exists is no inquiry at all. But when we have some grasp of the thing itself, the task is easier. Thus our capacity for discovering what a thing is depends upon our awareness that it is.

Let us first take an example of something of whose essence we have some grasp, and let A stand for "eclipse," C for "moon," and B for "obstruction by the earth."<sup>c</sup> Then to inquire whether there is an eclipse or not is to inquire whether B exists or not; and this is equivalent to inquiring whether there is anything to account for it; if there is, we assert that B *is* too. Similarly we may ask which of a pair of contradictories is true (*e.g.*, having or not having the sum of the angles equal to two right angles); and when we have discovered the answer we know simultaneously both the fact and the reason for it—if the premisses are immediate; otherwise we know the fact but not the reason.<sup>d</sup> C is "moon," A "eclipse," B "the inability of the moon at its full to cast a shadow, there being nothing visible in the way." Then if B, "inability to cast a shadow although there is nothing in the way," applies to C, and A, "being directly assumed, so that fact and reason are discovered simultaneously.

We may then look for immediate premisses to explain the connexion,

<sup>a</sup> As in the following example, where the minor premiss is not immediate, and the real reason has to be sought.

93 b

δὲ τὸ Α τὸ ἐκκλειοιπέναι, ὅτι μὲν ἐκλείπει δῆλον, διότι δ' οὐπω, καὶ ὅτι μὲν ἔστιν ἐκκλειψίς<sup>1</sup> ἴσμεν, τί δ' ἔστιν οὐκ ἴσμεν. δῆλου δ' ὄντος ὅτι τὸ Α τῷ Γ  
 5 ὑπάρχει, ἀλλὰ διὰ τί ὑπάρχει, τὸ ζητεῖν τὸ Β τί ἐστι, πότερον ἀντίφραξις ἢ στροφὴ τῆς σελήνης ἢ ἀπόσβεσις. τοῦτο δ' ἐστὶν ὁ λόγος τοῦ ἐτέρου ἄκρου, οἶον ἐν τούτοις τοῦ Α· ἔστι γὰρ ἡ ἐκκλειψις ἀντίφραξις ὑπὸ γῆς. τί ἐστι βροντή; πυρὸς ἀπόσβεσις ἐν νέφει. διὰ τί βροντᾶ; διὰ τὸ ἀποσβέννυσθαι τὸ  
 10 πῦρ ἐν τῷ νέφει. νέφος Γ, βροντὴ Α, ἀπόσβεσις πυρὸς τὸ Β. τῷ δὲ Γ τῷ νέφει ὑπάρχει τὸ Β, ἀποσβέννυται γὰρ ἐν αὐτῷ τὸ πῦρ· τούτῳ δὲ τὸ Α, ψόφος· καὶ ἔστι γὰρ λόγος τὸ Β τοῦ Α τοῦ πρώτου ἄκρου. ἂν δὲ πάλιν τούτου ἄλλο μέσον ᾗ, ἐκ τῶν παραλοίπων ἔσται λόγων.

15 Ὡς μὲν τοίνυν λαμβάνεται τὸ τί ἐστι καὶ γίγνεται γνῶριμον, εἴρηται, ὥστε συλλογισμὸς μὲν τοῦ τί ἐστιν οὐ γίγνεται οὐδ' ἀπόδειξις, δῆλον μέντοι διὰ συλλογισμοῦ καὶ δι' ἀποδείξεως· ὥστ' οὐτ' ἄνευ ἀποδείξεως ἔστι γινῶναι τὸ τί ἐστιν, οὐδ' ἔστιν αἷτιον  
 20 ἄλλο, οὐτ' ἔστιν ἀπόδειξις αὐτοῦ, ὥσπερ καὶ ἐν τοῖς διαπορήμασιν εἶπομεν.

IX. Ἐστι δὲ τῶν μὲν ἑτερόν τι αἷτιον, τῶν δ' οὐκ ἔστιν. ὥστε δῆλον ὅτι καὶ τῶν τί ἐστι τὰ μὲν

<sup>1</sup> ἔστιν ἐκκλειψις η : ἐκκλειψίς ἐστιν ABd.

<sup>a</sup> Or " explanation " ; see below.

<sup>b</sup> i.e., major.

<sup>c</sup> λόγος seems to have a wider meaning here than in b 6. Aristotle means that B either is itself the definition or implies

## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, II. VIII-IX

eclipsed," to B, it is obvious that there is an eclipse, but it is not yet obvious *why*; and we know that the eclipse is a fact, but we do not know *what* it is. When it is clear that A applies to C, to ask *why* it does so is equivalent to asking what B is: whether an obstruction or a rotation or an extinction of the moon; and this is the definition <sup>a</sup> of the other extreme <sup>b</sup> term, *viz.* (in these examples) A; because an eclipse is an obstruction by the earth of the moon's light. What is thunder? An extinction of fire in a cloud. Why does it thunder? Because the fire is being extinguished in the cloud. "Cloud" is C, "thunder" A, "extinction of fire" B. Then B applies to the cloud, C, because the fire is being extinguished in it; and A, "noise," applies to B; and B is undoubtedly the explanation of A, the major term. If B in its turn has another middle term for its cause, this will be one of the remaining explanations <sup>c</sup> of A.

and the middle term or terms will constitute the definition.

We have now stated how the essence is apprehended, and becomes known to us, to the effect that although it does not admit of syllogism or demonstration, yet it is through syllogism and demonstration that it becomes clear to us.<sup>d</sup> It follows that the essence of a thing which has a cause other than itself cannot be known apart from demonstration, while at the same time it cannot be demonstrated; as we said <sup>e</sup> in reviewing the difficulties of the subject.

Thus demonstration does not prove but reveals the essence.

IX. Some things have a cause distinct from themselves, and others have not.<sup>f</sup> Thus it is clear that of

Immediate essences

an additional cause which, together with B, constitutes the definition.

<sup>d</sup> Although the essence or definition cannot be proved as the conclusion of a syllogism, yet syllogism enables us to see the facts in their true relation.

<sup>e</sup> In chs. ii and iii.

<sup>f</sup> Cf. note on 93 a 5.

93 b

ἅμεσα καὶ ἀρχαί εἰσιν, ἃ καὶ εἶναι καὶ τί ἐστὶν  
 ὑποθέσθαι δεῖ ἢ ἄλλον τρόπον φανερά ποιῆσαι (ὅπερ  
 25 ὁ ἀριθμητικὸς ποιεῖ· καὶ γὰρ τί ἐστὶ τὴν μονάδα  
 ὑποτίθεται, καὶ ὅτι ἐστὶν). τῶν δ' ἐχόντων μέσον,  
 καὶ ὧν ἐστὶ τι ἕτερον αἴτιον τῆς οὐσίας, ἐστὶ δι'  
 ἀποδείξεως, ὥσπερ εἵπομεν, δηλῶσαι, μὴ τὸ τί  
 ἐστὶν ἀποδεικνύντας.

X. Ὅρισμός δ' ἐπειδὴ λέγεται εἶναι λόγος τοῦ  
 30 τί ἐστὶ, φανερόν ὅτι ὁ μὲν τις ἐστὶ λόγος τοῦ τί  
 σημαίνει τὸ ὄνομα ἢ λόγος ἕτερος ὀνοματώδης, οἷον  
 τὸ<sup>1</sup> τί σημαίνει [τί ἐστὶ]<sup>2</sup> τρίγωνον. ὅπερ ἔχοντες  
 ὅτι ἐστὶ, ζητοῦμεν διὰ τί ἐστὶν· χαλεπὸν δ' οὕτως  
 ἐστὶ λαβεῖν ἢ μὴ ἴσμεν ὅτι ἐστὶν. ἢ δ' αἰτία  
 εἴρηται πρότερον τῆς χαλεπότητος, ὅτι οὐδ' εἰ  
 35 ἐστὶν ἢ μὴ ἴσμεν, ἀλλ' ἢ κατὰ συμβεβηκός. (λόγος  
 δ' εἰς ἐστὶ διχῶς, ὁ μὲν συνδέσμων, ὥσπερ ἡ Ἰλιάς,  
 ὁ δὲ τῷ ἐν καθ' ἑνὸς δηλοῦν μὴ κατὰ συμβεβηκός.)

Εἰς μὲν δὴ ὅρος ἐστὶν ὅρου ὁ εἰρημένος, ἄλλος δ'  
 ἐστὶν ὅρος λόγος ὁ δηλῶν διὰ τί ἐστὶν· ὥστε ὁ μὲν  
 94 a πρότερος σημαίνει μὲν, δείκνυσι δ' οὐ, ὁ δ' ὕστερος  
 φανερόν ὅτι ἐστὶ οἷον ἀπόδειξις τοῦ τί ἐστὶ, τῇ  
 θέσει διαφέρων τῆς ἀποδείξεως. διαφέρει γὰρ  
 εἰπεῖν διὰ τί βροντᾷ καὶ τί ἐστὶ βροντή· ἐρεῖ γὰρ  
 οὕτω μὲν διότι ἀποσβέννυται τὸ πῦρ ἐν τοῖς νέφεσι·

<sup>1</sup> τὸ om. n<sup>1</sup>.<sup>2</sup> τί ἐστὶ secl. Ross : τί ἐστὶν ἢ Ad.<sup>a</sup> In ch. viii.<sup>b</sup> Considered (apparently) as an attribute, not as a subject of geometry ; for then it would be a quasi-substance and its definition would fall under type (3).<sup>c</sup> 93 a 24 ff.<sup>d</sup> Cf. *Met.* 1045 a 13, and *supra* 92 b 32.



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essences too some are immediate ; *i.e.*, they are first principles, and both their existence and their definition have to be assumed or exhibited in some other way. (This is what an arithmetician does : he assumes both what a unit is, and that it exists.) As for things which have a middle term, *i.e.*, something distinct from themselves which is a cause of their being, it is possible (as we have said <sup>a</sup>) to exhibit their essence by demonstration, although we do not actually demonstrate it.

X. Since definition means "an account of what a thing is," obviously (1) one kind of definition will be an explanation of the meaning of the name, or of an equivalent denomination ; *e.g.*, it will explain the meaning of "triangularity."<sup>b</sup> If we are aware that such a thing exists, we inquire why it exists ; but it is difficult to apprehend in this way the definition of things which we do not know to exist. We have explained above <sup>c</sup> the cause of this difficulty, *viz.*, that we do not really know, except in an accidental sense, whether the thing exists or not. (An account may be a unity in two ways : either by connexion, like the *Iliad*,<sup>d</sup> or because it exhibits one term as predicated of one other term in a non-accidental relation.)

The above is one definition of definition ; but (2) in another sense definition is a form of words which explains *why* a thing exists. Thus type (1) conveys a meaning but does not prove, whereas type (2) will obviously be a quasi-demonstration of the essence, differing from demonstration in the arrangement of its terms. To explain why it thunders is not the same as to explain what thunder is. In the former case we shall say "because the fire is being extinguished in

must be assumed or found by another method.

The three kinds of definition.

94 a

- 5 τί δ' ἐστὶ βροντή; ψόφος ἀποσβεννυμένου πυρὸς ἐν νέφεσιν· ὥστε ὁ αὐτὸς λόγος ἄλλον τρόπον λέγεται, καὶ ὡδὶ μὲν ἀπόδειξις συνεχῆς, ὡδὶ δὲ ὀρισμός. ἔτι ἐστὶν ὁρος βροντῆς ψόφος ἐν νέφεσι· τοῦτο δ' ἐστὶ τῆς τοῦ τί ἐστὶν ἀποδείξεως συμπέρασμα. ὁ δὲ τῶν ἀμέσων ὀρισμὸς θέσις ἐστὶ τοῦ τί ἐστὶν  
10 ἀναπόδεικτος.

- Ἔστιν ἄρα ὀρισμὸς εἰς μὲν λόγος τοῦ τί ἐστὶν ἀναπόδεικτος, εἰς δὲ συλλογισμὸς τοῦ τί ἐστὶ πτώσει διαφέρων τῆς ἀποδείξεως, τρίτος δὲ τῆς τοῦ τί ἐστὶν ἀποδείξεως συμπέρασμα. φανερὸν οὖν ἐκ  
15 τῶν εἰρημένων καὶ πῶς ἔστι τοῦ τί ἐστὶν ἀπόδειξις καὶ πῶς οὐκ ἔστι, καὶ τίνων ἔστι καὶ τίνων οὐκ ἔστιν, ἔτι δ' ὀρισμὸς ποσαχῶς τε λέγεται καὶ πῶς τὸ τί ἐστὶ δείκνυσι καὶ πῶς οὐ, καὶ τίνων ἔστι καὶ τίνων οὐ, ἔτι δὲ πρὸς ἀπόδειξιν πῶς ἔχει, καὶ πῶς ἐνδέχεται τοῦ αὐτοῦ εἶναι καὶ πῶς οὐκ ἐνδέχεται.  
20 XI. Ἐπεὶ δὲ ἐπίστασθαι οἰόμεθα ὅταν εἰδῶμεν τὴν αἰτίαν, αἰτίαι δὲ τέτταρες, μία μὲν τὸ τί ἦν εἶναι, μία δὲ τὸ τίνων ὄντων ἀνάγκη τοῦτ' εἶναι, ἑτέρα δὲ ἡ τί πρῶτον ἐκίνησε, τετάρτη δὲ τὸ τίνος ἔνεκα, πᾶσαι αὗται διὰ τοῦ μέσου δείκνυνται. τό τε

<sup>a</sup> Continuous "because its premisses are parts which are conterminous (as linked by middle terms), and there is a movement from premisses to conclusion. Definition resembles rather the indivisible simplicity of a point" (Mure).

<sup>b</sup> See 93 b 21 ff.

<sup>c</sup> The three types are recapitulated in reverse order.

<sup>d</sup> i.e., in the arrangement of the terms (cf. 94 a 2).

<sup>e</sup> Three of these causes belong to Aristotle's standard doctrine of causation as set out in *Phys.* II. iii; but here the place of the material cause, which is inappropriate for the present logical purpose, is taken by the "necessitating con-

the clouds ” ; but the answer to the question “ What is thunder ? ” is “ Noise due to the extinguishing of fire in the clouds.” Thus the same account is expressed in a different way ; in one form it is a continuous <sup>a</sup> demonstration, in the other a definition. Further, whereas thunder can be defined as a noise in the clouds, which is the conclusion of the syllogism that demonstrates the essence, (3) the definition of immediate terms <sup>b</sup> consists in an indemonstrable assumption of their essence.

Thus in one sense <sup>c</sup> definition is an indemonstrable account of the essence ; in another it is a logical inference of the essence, differing from demonstration in grammatical form <sup>d</sup> ; and in a third it is the conclusion of the syllogism which demonstrates the essence. The foregoing discussion shows clearly (a) in what sense essence is demonstrable, and in what sense it is not ; (b) of what things the essence is demonstrable, and of what it is not ; (c) the different aspects of definition ; (d) in what sense it does or does not exhibit the essence ; (e) what things are or are not definable ; (f) the relation of definition to demonstration ; (g) in what sense there can be definition and demonstration of the same thing.

XI. We only think that we have knowledge of a thing when we know its cause. There are four kinds of cause : the essence, the necessitating conditions, the efficient cause which started the process, and the final cause.<sup>e</sup> All these are exhibited through the

dition ” or “ ground.” The formula (barely reproducible in English) by which Aristotle describes this recalls the definition of syllogism (*An. Pr.* 24 b 18 ff.), and in l. 24 it becomes plain that he has in mind the conjunction of two premisses as the ground of their conclusion. Although there is some analogy between this ground and the material cause, there

Summary of this and the two preceding chapters.

The four kinds of logical cause are all exhibited through a middle term. (1) The ground.

25 γὰρ οὐ ὄντος τοδὶ ἀνάγκη εἶναι μιᾶς μὲν προτάσεως  
 ληφθείσης οὐκ ἔστι, δυοῖν δὲ τοῦλάχιστον· τοῦτο δ'  
 ἐστὶν ὅταν ἐν μέσον ἔχωσι. τούτου οὖν ἐνὸς ληφ-  
 θέντος τὸ συμπέρασμα ἀνάγκη εἶναι. δῆλον δὲ καὶ  
 ὧδε. διὰ τί ὀρθὴ ἢ ἐν ἡμικυκλίῳ; τίνος<sup>1</sup> ὄντος  
 ὀρθή; ἔστω δὴ ὀρθὴ ἐφ' ἧς A, ἡμίσεια δυοῖν ὀρ-  
 30 θαῖν ἐφ' ἧς B, ἢ ἐν ἡμικυκλίῳ ἐφ' ἧς Γ. τοῦ δὴ  
 τὸ A τὴν ὀρθὴν ὑπάρχειν τῷ Γ τῇ ἐν τῷ ἡμικυκλίῳ  
 αἴτιον τὸ B. αὕτη μὲν γὰρ τῇ A ἴση· ἢ δὲ τὸ Γ  
 τῇ B· δύο γὰρ ὀρθῶν ἡμίσεια. τοῦ B οὖν ὄντος  
 ἡμίσεος δύο ὀρθῶν τὸ A τῷ Γ ὑπάρχει· τοῦτο δ'  
 ἦν τὸ ἐν ἡμικυκλίῳ ὀρθὴν εἶναι. τοῦτο δὲ ταῦτόν  
<sup>1</sup> τίνος] ἢ τίνος D.

is no reason to suppose that Aristotle means to identify them. The error of such a view is fully demonstrated by Ross *ad loc.* Here it is enough to point out that the material could never be equated with the formal cause (a 34 *infra*). Aristotle is simply trying (with qualified success) to offer an analysis of causation which will enable him to represent each type of cause as a kind of middle term.

<sup>a</sup> From the sequel it appears that this odd and perhaps deliberately vague phrase is intended to mean that each type can actually serve as middle term in a syllogism.

<sup>b</sup> *i.e.*, common.

<sup>c</sup> The choice of "the half of two right angles" as middle term clearly implies that Aristotle had in mind a proof in



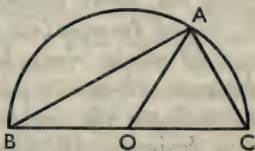
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middle term.<sup>a</sup> (1) There is no necessitating ground if only one premiss is assumed; two at least are necessary; and the condition is satisfied when the premisses have one <sup>b</sup> middle term. Thus the assumption of this one term necessitates the conclusion. This is clear from the following example. Why is the angle in a semicircle a right angle? What is the ground of its being a right angle? Let A be a right angle, B the half of two right angles, C the angle in a semicircle.<sup>c</sup> Then the cause for the attachment of A, right angle, to C, the angle in a semicircle, is B; for this is equal to A, and the angle C to B, since B is the half of two right angles. Thus the fact that B is the half of two right angles is the ground necessitating that A applies to C, *i.e.* (by our assumption), that the angle in a semicircle is a right angle. Now

which this expression occurred (probably) at the penultimate step; *e.g.*, not the proof of *Met.* 1051 a 27 (cited by Ross), nor that of Euclid iii. 21, but the interpolated proof which follows the latter, to this effect:

BAC is an  $\angle$  in the semicircle ABC, centre O. Since OB, OA, OC are radii,  $\angle OBA = \angle OAB$  and  $\angle OCA = \angle OAC$ . Then  $\angle AOC = 2\angle BAO$ , and  $\angle AOB = 2\angle CAO$ .

$\therefore \angle BAC = \angle BAO + \angle CAO = \frac{1}{2}(\angle AOC + \angle AOB) = \frac{1}{2}\angle BOC = \frac{1}{2}(2 \text{ rt. } \angle s) = \text{a rt. } \angle$ .



(So Heath, *Mathematics in Aristotle*, p. 72.) It is tempting to think that Aristotle might have directly perceived that  $\angle BAC = \frac{1}{2}$  the flat  $\angle BOC$  standing on the same arc; for this would go far to justify "some such definition of the rightness of the angle in a semicircle as its being right in consequence of being the half of two right angles," for which "little can be said" (Ross *ad loc.*). But although Aristotle was an acute mathematician, it is hardly likely that he was so far in advance of his times.

94 a

85 ἔστι τῷ τί ἦν εἶναι, τῷ τοῦτο σημαίνειν τὸν λόγον.  
ἀλλὰ μὴν καὶ τὸ τί ἦν εἶναι αἷτιον δέδεικται τὸ  
μέσον ὄν.<sup>1</sup> τὸ δὲ διὰ τί ὁ Μηδικὸς πόλεμος ἐγένετο  
Ἀθηναίοις; τίς αἰτία τοῦ πολεμεῖσθαι Ἀθηναίους;

94 b

ὅτι εἰς Σάρδεις μετ' Ἐρετριέων ἐνέβαλον· τοῦτο  
γὰρ ἐκίνησε πρῶτον. πόλεμος ἐφ' οὗ A, προ-  
τέρους<sup>2</sup> εἰσβαλεῖν B, Ἀθηναῖοι τὸ Γ. ὑπάρχει δὴ  
τὸ B τῷ Γ, τὸ προτέρους<sup>3</sup> ἐμβαλεῖν τοῖς Ἀθηναίοις.  
5 τὸ δὲ A τῷ B· πολεμοῦσι γὰρ τοῖς πρότερον ἀδική-  
σασιν. ὑπάρχει ἄρα τῷ μὲν B τὸ A, τὸ πολεμεῖ-  
σθαι τοῖς προτέρους<sup>4</sup> ἄρξασιν· τοῦτο δὲ τὸ B<sup>5</sup> τοῖς  
Ἀθηναίοις· πρότεροι γὰρ ἦρξαν. μέσον ἄρα καὶ ἐν-  
ταῦθα τὸ αἷτιον τὸ πρῶτον κινήσαν. ὅσων δὲ αἷτιον  
τὸ ἕνεκά τινος, οἷον διὰ τί περιπατεῖ; ὅπως ὑγιαίνει·  
10 διὰ τί οἰκία ἔστιν; ὅπως σῶζεται τὰ σκεύη· τὸ  
μὲν ἕνεκα τοῦ ὑγιαίνειν, τὸ δὲ ἕνεκα τοῦ σῶζεσθαι.  
διὰ τί δὲ ἀπὸ δείπνου δεῖ περιπατεῖν, καὶ ἕνεκα  
τίνος δεῖ, οὐδὲν διαφέρει. περίπατος ἀπὸ δείπνου  
Γ, τὸ μὴ ἐπιπολάζειν τὰ σιτία ἐφ' οὗ B, τὸ ὑγιαί-  
νειν ἐφ' οὗ A. ἔστω δὴ τῷ ἀπὸ δείπνου περιπατεῖν  
15 ὑπάρχον τὸ ποιεῖν μὴ ἐπιπολάζειν τὰ σιτία πρὸς  
τῷ στόματι τῆς κοιλίας, καὶ τοῦτο ὑγιεινόν. δοκεῖ  
γὰρ ὑπάρχειν τῷ περιπατεῖν τῷ Γ τὸ B τὸ μὴ  
ἐπιπολάζειν τὰ σιτία, τούτῳ δὲ τὸ A τὸ ὑγιεινόν.  
τί οὖν αἷτιον τῷ Γ τοῦ τὸ A ὑπάρχειν τὸ οὐ ἕνεκα;

<sup>1</sup> ὄν om. ABdn<sup>1</sup>.<sup>2</sup> πρότερον Bekker.<sup>3</sup> πρότερον D, Bekker.<sup>4</sup> προτέρους] πρότερον D.<sup>5</sup> B τῷ Γ D<sup>2</sup> f.<sup>a</sup> i.e., the necessitating ground.

this <sup>a</sup> is the same as the essence, inasmuch as it is what the definition implies. (2) The cause in the sense of essence has also been proved to be the middle.<sup>b</sup> (3) Why did the Persian expedition <sup>c</sup> come against Athens? or in other words, what was the cause of her becoming involved in war? Because Athens had, in company with Eretria, raided Sardis <sup>d</sup>; this was what first started the war. A is "war," B "unprovoked aggression," C "Athens." Then B, unprovoked aggression, applies to C, Athens; and A applies to B, because war is made upon those who commit an aggressive wrong. So A, becoming involved in war, applies to B, the side which began hostilities; and B in its turn applies to C, Athens, because she began hostilities. Thus here too the cause—the efficient cause—is a middle. (4) Now take the case where the cause is final: *e.g.*, Why does one take a walk? In order to be healthy. What is the object of a house? Preservation of the contents. The final causes are respectively health and preservation. It makes no difference whether we ask *why* or *for what purpose* one should take a walk after dinner. C stands for "walking after dinner," B for "normal digestion," <sup>e</sup> and A for "health." Let us assume that walking after dinner possesses the attribute of promoting normal digestion, and that the latter is conducive to health; because it is generally accepted that B, normal digestion, applies to C, taking a walk, and that A, healthful, applies to B. Then what is the reason why A, the final cause, applies to C? The

(2) the essence,

(3) the efficient cause,

and (4) the final cause can all stand as middle terms.

<sup>b</sup> In ch. viii; *cf.* also 93 b 38 ff.

<sup>c</sup> Under Datis in 490 B.C.

<sup>d</sup> Under Aristagoras in 497 B.C.

<sup>e</sup> Literally "food not floating on the surface," with the added qualification in l. 15 "at the mouth of the stomach."

94 b

τὸ Β τὸ μὴ ἐπιπολάζειν. τοῦτο δ' ἐστὶν ὥσπερ  
 20 ἐκείνου λόγος· τὸ γὰρ Α οὕτως ἀποδοθήσεται. διὰ  
 τί δέ<sup>1</sup> τὸ Β τῷ Γ ἐστίν; ὅτι τοῦτ' ἐστὶ τὸ ὑγιαί-  
 νειν, τὸ οὕτως ἔχειν. δεῖ δὲ μεταλαμβάνειν τοὺς  
 λόγους, καὶ οὕτως μᾶλλον ἕκαστα φανέεται. αἱ δὲ  
 γενέσεις ἀνάπαλιν ἐνταῦθα καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν κατὰ κίνη-  
 σιν αἰτίων· ἐκεῖ μὲν γὰρ τὸ μέσον δεῖ γενέσθαι  
 25 πρῶτον, ἐνταῦθα δὲ τὸ Γ τὸ ἔσχατον· τελευταῖον  
 δὲ τὸ οὐ ἔνεκα.

Ἐνδέχεται δὲ τὸ αὐτὸ καὶ ἔνεκά τινος εἶναι καὶ  
 ἐξ ἀνάγκης, οἷον διὰ τοῦ λαμπτήρος τὸ φῶς· καὶ

<sup>1</sup> δὲ om. D.

<sup>a</sup> This passage is not clearly thought out, and interpreta-  
 tion can only be tentative. It seems that up to this point  
 Aristotle only professes to enunciate a syllogism of which the  
*major* term is a final cause. In so doing he overlooks (or  
 disregards) the fact that a final cause can only function as  
 such in a "practical" syllogism, whereas the one which he  
 has in mind seems to be demonstrative, *viz.*,

What promotes digestion is healthful  
 Walking after dinner promotes digestion  
 ∴ Walking after dinner is healthful.

This is valid, but it proves nothing about health *qua* final  
 cause. Aristotle would probably justify his reasoning on  
 teleological grounds by arguing that walking, etc., is healthful  
 because it is an activity subserving a natural end; but this  
 is really another matter.

Ross, who interprets the passage quite differently, supposing  
 that Aristotle is already trying to exhibit the final cause as  
 middle term, shows that in this case the middle term must  
 be not "health" but "desirous of being healthy" (Those  
 who wish to be healthy walk after dinner, This man desires  
 to be healthy, Therefore this man walks after dinner), and  
 comments "Aristotle is in fact mistaken in his use of the



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answer is "B, normal digestion."<sup>a</sup> This is a sort of definition of A, because A will be explained by this means.<sup>b</sup> Why does B apply to C? Because health is the condition represented by B. The expressions<sup>c</sup> should be transposed, and then the several facts will become clearer. In these examples the order of events is the reverse of what it is in the case of efficient causes. There it is the middle term that must come first<sup>d</sup>; but here it is the minor term C, and the end or purpose comes last.

The same effect may obtain both for a purpose and as a necessary consequence, as, *e.g.*, light shines

Possibility  
of double  
causation.

notion of final cause. It is never the so-called final cause that is operative, but the desire of an object; and this desire operates as an efficient cause, being what corresponds, in the case of purposive action, to a mechanical or chemical cause in physical action." If my view is right, this criticism is scarcely justified. Moreover, it obscures the correlativity of the final and efficient causes: if it is the desire that "operates," that desire is still excited by the object of desire (the mouse wants the cheese, and the cheese attracts the mouse); the two are always complementary and often no more than different aspects of a single fact.

<sup>b</sup> Aristotle now tries to show that A, the final cause, can stand as middle between B and C. The steps seem to be: (1) B is "a sort of definition" of A; *i.e.*, the final is expressible in terms of the efficient cause. (2) Similarly *vice versa*. (3) Therefore A and B are convertible, and B can be proved of C through A.

If this interpretation (which is virtually the same as Mure's) is correct, Aristotle can hardly be acquitted of juggling with terms, although the interdependence of efficient and final causes (noted above) and the tendency of both to merge in the formal cause (*Met.* 1044 b 1, 1070 b 26) provide some justification.

<sup>c</sup> Or perhaps "definitions," A being defined in terms of B, and *vice versa*. The vagueness of the language suggests that Aristotle is not quite satisfied with his demonstration.

<sup>d</sup> Not really first, but before the major.

94 b

γὰρ ἐξ ἀνάγκης διέρχεται τὸ μικρομερέστερον διὰ  
 30 τῶν μειζόνων πόρων, εἴπερ φῶς γίγνεται τῷ δι-  
 ιέναι, καὶ ἔνεκά τινος, ὅπως μὴ πταίωμεν. ἄρ' οὖν  
 εἰ εἶναι ἐνδέχεται, καὶ γίγνεσθαι ἐνδέχεται, ὥσπερ εἰ  
 βροντᾶ (ὅτι)<sup>1</sup> ἀποσβεννυμένου τε τοῦ πυρὸς ἀνάγκη  
 σίζειν καὶ φοφεῖν, καὶ εἰ ὡς οἱ Πυθαγόρειοί φασιν,  
 ἀπειλῆς ἔνεκα τοῖς ἐν τῷ ταρτάρῳ, ὅπως φοβῶνται;  
 35 πλεῖστα δὲ τοιαῦτ' ἔστι, καὶ μάλιστα ἐν τοῖς κατὰ  
 φύσιν συνισταμένοις καὶ συνεστῶσιν· ἡ μὲν γὰρ  
 ἔνεκά του ποιεῖ φύσις, ἡ δ' ἐξ ἀνάγκης. ἡ δ' ἀνάγκη  
 95 a κη διττή· ἡ μὲν γὰρ κατὰ φύσιν καὶ τὴν ὁρμήν, ἡ  
 δὲ βία ἡ παρὰ τὴν ὁρμήν, ὥσπερ λίθος ἐξ ἀνάγκης  
 καὶ ἄνω καὶ κάτω φέρεται, ἀλλ' οὐ διὰ τὴν αὐτὴν  
 ἀνάγκην. ἐν δὲ τοῖς ἀπὸ διανοίας τὰ μὲν οὐδέποτε  
 ἀπὸ τοῦ αὐτομάτου ὑπάρχει, οἷον οἰκία ἢ ἀνδριάς,  
 5 οὐδ' ἐξ ἀνάγκης, ἀλλ' ἔνεκά του, τὰ δὲ καὶ ἀπὸ  
 τύχης, οἷον ὑγίεια καὶ σωτηρία. μάλιστα δὲ ἐν  
 ὅσοις ἐνδέχεται καὶ ᾧδε καὶ ἄλλως, ὅταν μὴ ἀπὸ  
 τύχης ἢ γένεσις ἢ ὥστε τὸ τέλος ἀγαθόν, ἔνεκά του

<sup>1</sup> ὅτι add. Ross, habent comm. (?).

<sup>a</sup> The lantern is probably of the type implied by A. in *Hist. An.* 531 a 5, with a cylindrical parchment shield (τὸ κύκλῳ δέρμα); and the light-particles pass through the pores of the parchment. The theory goes back to Empedocles (fr. 84, quoted in *De Sensu* 437 b 26 ff.), as no doubt does the similar theory about the burning-glass (*supra* 88 a 14) attributed to Gorgias, who was his pupil.

<sup>b</sup> The purpose is surely artificial, not (as Ross thinks) an instance of natural design; for the translucence of (oiled?) parchment can hardly be tied to this particular use. If the example is meant to be exactly parallel with that which follows, it is ill-chosen.

through a lantern. Being composed of particles smaller than the pores (in the shield) of the lantern,<sup>a</sup> it cannot help passing through them (assuming that this is how the light is propagated); but it also shines for a purpose, so that we may not stumble.<sup>b</sup> If, then, an effect can obtain for two causes, can it also be brought about by two causes?—*e.g.*, if it thunders both because there must be a hissing and roaring as the fire <sup>c</sup> is extinguished, and also (as the Pythagoreans hold) to threaten the souls in Tartarus and make them fear.<sup>d</sup> There are plenty of such examples, especially among the processes and products of nature; because nature in one aspect acts with a purpose and in another from necessity. Now necessity is of two kinds: one acts in accordance with the nature or natural tendency of an object, the other forcibly opposes it (thus both the upward and the downward movements of a stone are due to necessity, but not to the same necessity<sup>e</sup>). Among the products of rational thought some, such as a house or a statue, never owe their existence to spontaneity or necessity but always to some purpose; others, like health and security, may also be due to chance. It is especially in circumstances that admit of more than one result, when the process is not due to chance, so that the end is some good, that design

<sup>a</sup> *Sc.*, of the lightning. The Greek seems to call for Ross's  $\sigma\tau\iota$ , which has some support from the commentators; but I am by no means confident that Aristotle wrote it. It really looks as though the  $\epsilon\iota$  before  $\beta\rho\omicron\nu\tau\hat{\alpha}$  were intended to serve twice over.

<sup>d</sup> I know of no other authority for this doctrine.

<sup>e</sup> The downward movement is the stone's natural tendency to find its proper place in the universe (*cf. De Caelo* IV. iv); the upward is imparted by some external force.

γίνεται, καὶ ἢ φύσει ἢ τέχνῃ. ἀπὸ τύχης δ' οὐδέν  
ἐνέκά του γίνεται.

- 10 XII. Τὸ δ' αὐτὸ αἴτιον ἐστὶ τοῖς γιγνομένοις καὶ  
τοῖς γεγενημένοις καὶ τοῖς ἐσομένοις ὅπερ καὶ τοῖς  
οὔσι (τὸ γὰρ μέσον αἴτιον), πλὴν τοῖς μὲν οὔσιν ὄν,  
τοῖς δὲ γιγνομένοις γιγνόμενον, τοῖς δὲ γεγενη-  
μένοις γεγενημένον καὶ ἐσομένοις ἐσόμενον. οἷον  
15 διὰ τί γέγονεν ἑκλειψις; διότι ἐν μέσῳ γέγονεν ἡ  
γῆ· γίνεται δὲ διότι γίνεται, ἔσται δὲ διότι ἔσται  
ἐν μέσῳ, καὶ ἔστι διότι<sup>1</sup> ἔστιν. τί ἐστὶ κρύσταλλος;  
εἰλήφθω δὴ ὅτι ὕδωρ πεπηγός. ὕδωρ ἐφ' οὗ Γ,  
πεπηγός ἐφ' οὗ Α, αἴτιον τὸ μέσον ἐφ' οὗ Β, ἑκ-  
λειψις θερμοῦ παντέλης. ὑπάρχει δὴ τῷ Γ τὸ Β,  
20 τούτῳ δὲ τὸ πεπηγέναι τὸ ἐφ' οὗ Α. γίνεται δὲ  
κρύσταλλος γιγνομένου τοῦ Β, γεγένηται δὲ γεγενη-  
μένου, ἔσται δ' ἐσόμενον.

Τὸ μὲν οὖν οὕτως αἴτιον καὶ οὐ αἴτιον ἅμα γίγ-  
νεται, ὅταν γίγνηται, καὶ ἔστιν, ὅταν ᾗ· καὶ ἐπὶ τοῦ  
γεγονέναι καὶ ἔσεσθαι ὡσαύτως. ἐπὶ δὲ τῶν μὴ  
25 ἅμα ἄρ' ἔστιν ἐν τῷ συνεχεῖ χρόνῳ, ὥσπερ δοκεῖ  
ἡμῖν, ἄλλα ἄλλων αἴτια εἶναι, τοῦ τόδε γενέσθαι  
ἕτερον γενόμενον, καὶ τοῦ ἔσεσθαι ἕτερον ἐσόμενον,  
καὶ τοῦ γίγνεσθαι δέ, εἴ τι ἔμπροσθεν ἐγένετο;  
ἔστι δὴ ἀπὸ τοῦ ὕστερον γεγονότος ὁ συλλογισμός  
(ἀρχὴ δὲ καὶ τούτων τὰ γεγονότα)· διὸ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν

<sup>1</sup> διότι Dn : om. d : δὲ ὅτι AB.

<sup>a</sup> In the preceding examples the causes are both formal and efficient. Aristotle does not say explicitly that causes which are not simultaneous with their effects are not formal



## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, II. XI-XII

occurs ; it may be either natural or artificial. No designed result is due to chance.

XII. Present, past and future events are caused in just the same way as existing facts. The cause is always the middle term ; but whereas the cause of a fact is a fact, the cause of a present event is a present event, and similarly with the past and the future. *E.g.*, why has an eclipse occurred ? Because the earth has come in between ; and an eclipse *is coming* about because the earth *is coming* in between, *will be* because the earth *will be* in between, and *is* because the earth *is* in between. What is ice ? Assume that it is frozen water. Water is C, frozen A ; the cause is the middle term B, complete failure of heat. Then B applies to C, and A, "frozen," applies to B. Ice forms when B comes about, has formed or will form when B has come or will come about.

Causes correspond in time with their effects.

Causes and effects which are related in this way<sup>a</sup> occur simultaneously when they occur at all, whether in the present, past or future ; and co-exist when they exist. But the question suggests itself whether, as is commonly supposed, events which do *not* occur simultaneously in continuous time can be related as cause and effect—a past effect having a cause in the remoter past, a future effect a cause in the nearer future, and a present effect too a cause prior to it ?

Can causes ever precede their effects ?

On this view inference is possible from the posterior past event (although past events have their origin in previous events<sup>b</sup>)—and therefore the same is true of but may be efficient or material ; but he may intend to imply it.

If so, we can infer the cause from the effect, but not the effect from the cause.

<sup>b</sup> This qualification comes in oddly here. It seems to be merely a reminder that Aristotle does not dispute the causal connexion, although he does not accept it as a sufficient basis for inference.

95 a

30 γιγνομένων ὡσαύτως. ἀπὸ δὲ τοῦ προτέρου οὐκ ἔστιν· οἷον ἐπεὶ τόδε γέγονεν, ὅτι τόδ' ὕστερον γέγονεν· καὶ ἐπὶ τοῦ ἔσεσθαι ὡσαύτως. οὔτε γὰρ ἀόριστου οὔθ' ὀρισθέντος ἔσται τοῦ χρόνου ὥστ' ἐπεὶ τοῦτ' ἀληθὲς εἰπεῖν γεγονέναι, τόδ' ἀληθὲς εἰπεῖν γεγονέναι τὸ ὕστερον· ἐν γὰρ τῷ μεταξὺ  
 35 ψεῦδος ἔσται τὸ εἰπεῖν τοῦτο, ἥδη θατέρου γεγονότος. ὁ δ' αὐτὸς λόγος καὶ ἐπὶ τοῦ ἐσομένου, οὐδ' ἐπεὶ τόδε γέγονε, τόδ' ἔσται. τὸ γὰρ μέσον ὁμόγονον δεῖ εἶναι, τῶν γενομένων γενόμενον, τῶν ἐσόμενων ἐσόμενον, τῶν γιγνομένων γιγνόμενον, τῶν ὄντων ὄν· τοῦ δὲ γέγονε καὶ τοῦ ἔσται οὐκ ἐνδέχεται

40 εἶναι ὁμόγονον. ἔτι οὔτε ἀόριστον ἐνδέχεται εἶναι

95 b τὸν χρόνον τὸν μεταξὺ οὔθ' ὠρισμένον· ψεῦδος γὰρ ἔσται τὸ εἰπεῖν ἐν τῷ μεταξύ. ἐπισκεπτέον δὲ τί τὸ συνέχον ὥστε μετὰ τὸ γεγονέναι τὸ γίνεσθαι ὑπάρχειν ἐν τοῖς πράγμασιν. ἢ δῆλον ὅτι οὐκ ἔστιν

<sup>a</sup> But it might, of course, be true to say that Y *will* happen; therefore Aristotle proceeds to deal with this possibility.

<sup>b</sup> As Ross points out, "Aristotle says more than he means here," for this principle would exclude inference from present to past events, which he explicitly allows.

<sup>c</sup> If the effect does not follow immediately (as it does when "simultaneous" with its cause) other factors may either delay it so that it does not occur within a definite period of time, or prevent it from happening at all. Thus while the cause can be inferred as a necessary precondition of the effect, the effect cannot be inferred to be a necessary consequence. On the whole question see *Intro.* pp. 15 f.

<sup>d</sup> The discussion is inconclusive; its superficiality is at least partly due to an ambiguity in the terms used, and to the lack of a Greek participle expressing continuous action

present events—but not from the prior; *e.g.*, we cannot argue that because X happened Y happened subsequently (and similarly in the case of future events); whether the interval be defined or not, it will not follow that because it is true to say that X has happened, it is also true to say that the posterior event Y has happened; because during the interval it will be false to say that Y has happened,<sup>a</sup> whereas X has happened already. The same argument applies to future events: it does not follow, because X has happened, that Y will happen. (1) The middle term must be homogeneous with the extremes: past when they are past, future when they are future, present when they are present, existent fact when they are existent facts<sup>b</sup>; and nothing can be homogeneous at once with what is past and what is future. (2) The interval between cause and effect can neither be indefinite nor definite; because during the interval it will be false to assert the effect.<sup>c</sup> We must investigate what is the bond of continuity that makes a present process follow the completion of a past event.<sup>d</sup> It is surely obvious that a present process is not con-

What is the causal link between events distinct in time?

in past time. Aristotle asks what is the connexion between a past event (*γεγονός* or *γενόμενον*, “a thing-having-happened”) and a present one (*γινόμενον*, “a thing-happening”). But the former also means a completed process, or the completion of a process, and the latter a process still continuing. Since the completion of a process is momentary, it is indivisible and has no extremes (*Phys.* 235 b 30 ff.) and cannot be contiguous (*i.e.*, immediately successive: *Phys.* 227 a 6, *Met.* 1069 a 2) either to another completion or to a process; just as a point cannot be contiguous either to another point or to a line (which is not, of course, to be thought of as a finite aggregate of points). What Aristotle overlooks is that the completion of one process might coincide with the terminal point of a line: in other words, two processes may be actually continuous and separable only at an imaginary moment.

ἐχόμενον γεγονότος γιγνόμενον; οὐδὲ γὰρ γενόμενον  
 5 μενον γενομένου· πέρατα γὰρ καὶ ἄτομα· ὥσπερ  
 οὖν οὐδὲ στιγμαὶ εἰσιν ἀλλήλων ἐχόμεναι, οὐδὲ  
 γενόμενα· ἄμφω γὰρ ἀδιαίρετα. οὐδὲ δὴ γιγνόμε-  
 νον γεγεννημένου διὰ τὸ αὐτό· τὸ μὲν γὰρ γιγνό-  
 μενον διαιρετόν, τὸ δὲ γεγονὸς ἀδιαίρετον. ὥσπερ  
 οὖν γραμμὴ πρὸς στιγμὴν ἔχει, οὕτω τὸ γιγνό-  
 10 μενον πρὸς τὸ γεγονὸς· ἐνυπάρχει γὰρ ἅπειρα γεγο-  
 νότα ἐν τῷ γιγνομένῳ. μᾶλλον δὲ φανερώς ἐν τοῖς  
 καθόλου περὶ κινήσεως δεῖ λεχθῆναι περὶ τούτων.

Περὶ μὲν οὖν τοῦ πῶς ἂν ἐφεξῆς γιγνομένης τῆς  
 γενέσεως ἔχοι τὸ μέσον τὸ αἴτιον ἐπὶ τοσοῦτον  
 15 εἰλήφθω. ἀνάγκη γὰρ καὶ ἐν τούτοις τὸ μέσον  
 καὶ τὸ πρῶτον ἄμεσα εἶναι. οἷον τὸ Α γέγονεν  
 ἐπεὶ τὸ Γ γέγονεν (ὑστερον δὲ τὸ Γ γέγονεν, ἔμ-  
 προσθεν δὲ τὸ Α· ἀρχὴ δὲ τὸ Γ διὰ τὸ ἐγγύτερον  
 τοῦ νῦν εἶναι, ὃ ἐστὶν ἀρχὴ τοῦ χρόνου). τὸ δὲ Γ  
 γέγονεν εἰ τὸ Δ γέγονε· τοῦ δὴ Δ γενομένου ἀνάγκη  
 20 τὸ Α γεγονέναι. αἴτιον δὲ τὸ Γ· τοῦ γὰρ Δ γενο-  
 μένου τὸ Γ ἀνάγκη γεγονέναι, τοῦ δὲ Γ γεγονότος  
 ἀνάγκη πρότερον τὸ Α γεγονέναι. οὕτω δὲ λαμ-  
 βάνοντι τὸ μέσον στήσεται· πού τις εἰς ἄμεσον, ἢ αἰὲ  
 παρεμπεσεῖται διὰ τὸ ἄπειρον; οὐ γὰρ ἐστὶν ἐχόμε-  
 νον γεγονὸς γεγονότος, ὥσπερ ἐλέχθη. ἀλλ' ἄρξα-  
 25 σθαί γε ὁμῶς ἀνάγκη ἀπ' ἀμέσου<sup>1</sup> καὶ ἀπὸ τοῦ νῦν

<sup>1</sup> ἀπ' ἀμέσου n, Waitz: ἀπὸ μέσου ABd: ἀπὸ τοῦ μέσου comm.

<sup>a</sup> See *Phys.* IV. x-xiv and VI, where Aristotle discusses problems relating to time and continuity, and cf. *Intro.* p. 15.

<sup>b</sup> i.e., the immediate cause (*causa cognoscendi*).



tiguous with a past completion ; no more than one completed process is with another. Such completions are limits and indivisible. They are no more contiguous than are points in a line ; both are equally indivisible. For the same reason a present process cannot be contiguous with the completion of a past event, because the former is divisible and the latter is not. Thus the relation of a present process to the completion of a past event is like that of a line to a point because in a process there is an infinite number of completions. We must treat this subject more explicitly, however, in our general discussion of Motion.<sup>a</sup>

We may take it that we have now shown how, in a sequence of events, the middle term can contain the cause. Here again the middle and major terms must be immediately connected. *E.g.*, A has happened because C has happened. C is the later, A the earlier event ; but C is the starting-point, because it is nearer to the present, which is the starting-point in time. Now C has happened if D has happened. Then if D happens A must have happened. But the cause <sup>b</sup> is C, because if D happens C must have happened, and if C has happened A must have happened first. But if we take the middle term in this way, will the series terminate somewhere in an immediate premiss, or will it be infinite and always admit of the insertion of another term ?—because one past event is not contiguous with another, as we have observed above.<sup>c</sup> In any case we must start from an immediate connexion and the present time.<sup>d</sup>

In reasoning from effect to cause we must proceed by immediate connexions ;

A-C-D

but will the series ever terminate ?

<sup>c</sup> 95 b 3-6.

<sup>d</sup> Or perhaps (as Ross, following the commentators, prefers), " we must start from a connexion that is immediate and is the first of the series, reckoning back from the present."

95 b

πρώτου. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τοῦ ἔσται. εἰ γὰρ ἀλη-  
 θὲς εἰπεῖν ὅτι ἔσται τὸ Δ, ἀνάγκη πρότερον ἀληθὲς  
 εἰπεῖν ὅτι τὸ Α ἔσται. τούτου δ' αἷτιον τὸ Γ· εἰ μὲν  
 γὰρ τὸ Δ ἔσται, πρότερον τὸ Γ ἔσται· εἰ δὲ τὸ Γ  
 30 ἔσται, πρότερον τὸ Α ἔσται. ὁμοίως δ' ἄπειρος ἡ  
 τομὴ καὶ ἐν τούτοις· οὐ γὰρ ἔστιν ἐσόμενα ἐχόμενα  
 ἀλλήλων. ἀρχὴ δὲ καὶ ἐν τούτοις ἄμεσος ληπτέα.  
 ἔχει δὲ οὕτως ἐπὶ τῶν ἔργων· εἰ γέγονεν οἰκία,  
 ἀνάγκη τετμηῆσθαι λίθους καὶ γεγονέναι. τοῦτο διὰ  
 τί; ὅτι ἀνάγκη θεμέλιον γεγονέναι, εἴπερ καὶ οἰκία  
 35 γέγονεν<sup>1</sup>. εἰ δὲ θεμέλιον, πρότερον λίθους γεγο-  
 νέναι ἀνάγκη. πάλιν εἰ ἔσται οἰκία, ὡσαύτως  
 πρότερον ἔσονται λίθοι. δείκνυται δὲ διὰ τοῦ μέσου  
 ὁμοίως· ἔσται γὰρ θεμέλιος<sup>2</sup> πρότερον.

Ἐπεὶ δ' ὁρῶμεν ἐν τοῖς γιγνομένοις κύκλῳ τινὰ  
 γένεσιν οὖσαν, ἐνδέχεται τοῦτο εἶναι εἴπερ ἔποιντο  
 40 ἀλλήλοις τὸ μέσον καὶ οἱ ἄκροι· ἐν γὰρ τούτοις τὸ  
 96 a ἀντιστρέφειν ἐστίν. δέδεικται δὲ τοῦτο ἐν τοῖς  
 πρώτοις, ὅτι ἀντιστρέφει τὰ συμπεράσματα· τὸ δὲ  
 κύκλῳ τοῦτό ἐστιν. ἐπὶ δὲ τῶν ἔργων φαίνεται  
 ὧδε· βεβρεγμένης τῆς γῆς ἀνάγκη ἀτμίδα γενέσθαι,<sup>3</sup>  
 τούτου δὲ γενομένου νέφος, τούτου δὲ γενομένου  
 5 ὕδωρ· τούτου δὲ γενομένου ἀνάγκη βεβρέχθαι  
 τὴν γῆν· τοῦτο δ' ἦν τὸ ἐξ ἀρχῆς, ὥστε κύκλῳ περι-  
 ελήλυθεν· ἐνὸς γὰρ αὐτῶν ὅτουοῦν ὄντος ἕτερον  
 ἔστι, κακείνου ἄλλο, καὶ τούτου τὸ πρῶτον.

Ἔστι δ' ἔνια μὲν γιγνόμενα καθόλου (αἰεὶ τε γὰρ

<sup>1</sup> οἰκία γέγονεν Ross, habet Eustratius: οἰκίαν γεγονέναι codd.

<sup>2</sup> θεμέλιος n, Eustratius: θεμέλιον.

<sup>3</sup> γίνεσθαι Aldina, Bekker.

Similarly too in respect of the future. If it is true to say that D will be, it must be true at an earlier time to say that A will be. But C is the cause of A ; because if D will be, C will be before it ; and if C will be, A will be before C is. Here again the series will be infinitely divisible in the same way as before, because future events are not contiguous with one another. In this case too we must take as our starting-point an immediate connexion. The principle is exemplified in practical affairs. If a house has come into being, stones must have been cut and come into being. Why ? Because the fact that a house has come into being implies that so has a foundation ; and if so, stones must have come into being first. Again, if there is to be a house, similarly there will be stones first. The proof, as before, is by the middle term ; there will be a foundation before there is a house.

Practical examples of such inference.

It is a matter of observation that events sometimes occur in a cycle. This is possible when the middle and extreme terms are reciprocal consequents ; because under these conditions the sequence is convertible. It has been shown in the first part of our treatise that conclusions are convertible,<sup>a</sup> and this is a form of cyclic sequence. The following is a practical example. When the earth is wet mist must form, and after mist comes cloud, and after cloud rain, and after rain the earth must be wet. This was the point from which we started, so events have moved in a cycle. Any one of them leads to another, and that to a third, and that back to the first.

How events can occur in a cycle.

Some events occur universally (for a given state or

Inference of usual events.

<sup>a</sup> *Sc.*, if both premisses are convertible. *Cf. An. Pr. II. v, and supra 73 a 6 ff.*

96 a

καὶ ἐπὶ παντὸς οὕτως ἢ ἔχει ἢ γίγνεται), τὰ δὲ αἰεὶ  
 10 μὲν οὐ, ὥς ἐπὶ τὸ πολὺ δέ, οἷον οὐ πᾶς ἄνθρωπος  
 ἄρρην τὸ γένειον τριχοῦται, ἀλλ' ὥς ἐπὶ τὸ πολὺ.  
 τῶν δὴ τοιούτων ἀνάγκη καὶ τὸ μέσον ὥς ἐπὶ τὸ  
 πολὺ εἶναι. εἰ γὰρ τὸ Α κατὰ τοῦ Β καθόλου κατη-  
 γορεῖται, καὶ τοῦτο κατὰ τοῦ Γ καθόλου, ἀνάγκη  
 καὶ τὸ Α κατὰ τοῦ Γ αἰεὶ καὶ ἐπὶ παντὸς κατ-  
 15 ηγορεῖσθαι· τοῦτο γάρ ἐστι τὸ καθόλου, τὸ<sup>1</sup> ἐπὶ  
 παντὶ καὶ αἰεὶ. ἀλλ' ὑπέκειτο ὥς ἐπὶ τὸ πολὺ· ἀν-  
 ἀγκη ἄρα καὶ τὸ μέσον ὥς ἐπὶ τὸ πολὺ εἶναι τὸ ἐφ'  
 οὗ τὸ Β. ἔσονται τοίνυν καὶ τῶν ὥς ἐπὶ τὸ πολὺ  
 ἀρχαὶ ἄμεσοι, ὅσα ὥς ἐπὶ τὸ πολὺ οὕτως ἔστιν ἢ  
 γίγνεται.

20 XIII. Πῶς μὲν οὖν τὸ τί ἐστὶν εἰς τοὺς ὅρους  
 ἀποδίδοται, καὶ τίνα τρόπον ἀπόδειξις ἢ ὁρισμὸς  
 ἔστιν αὐτοῦ ἢ οὐκ ἔστιν, εἴρηται πρότερον· πῶς δὲ  
 δεῖ θηρεύειν τὰ ἐν τῷ τί ἐστὶ κατηγορούμενα, νῦν  
 λέγωμεν.

Τῶν δὴ ὑπαρχόντων αἰεὶ ἐκάστω ἓνια ἐπεκτείνει  
 25 ἐπὶ πλεόν, οὐ μέντοι ἔξω τοῦ γένους. λέγω δὲ ἐπὶ  
 πλεόν ὑπάρχειν ὅσα ὑπάρχει μὲν ἐκάστω καθόλου,  
 οὐ μὴν ἀλλὰ καὶ ἄλλω. οἷον ἔστι τι ὃ πάσῃ τριάδι  
 ὑπάρχει, ἀλλὰ καὶ μὴ τριάδι, ὥσπερ τὸ ὄν ὑπάρχει  
 τῇ τριάδι, ἀλλὰ καὶ μὴ ἀριθμῷ· ἀλλὰ καὶ τὸ περιτ-  
 30 τὸν ὑπάρχει τε πάσῃ τριάδι καὶ ἐπὶ πλεόν ὑπάρχει

<sup>1</sup> τὸ n : καὶ ABd.

<sup>a</sup> For "usual" events as objects of science cf. *Met.* 1026  
 b 27 ff., 1064 b 32 ff.

<sup>b</sup> *Viz.*, that in a syllogism which leads to a causal defini-



## POSTERIOR ANALYTICS, II. XII-XIII

process may be true always and of every case), while others occur not always but usually <sup>a</sup>; *e.g.*, not every male human being grows hair on the chin, but it happens usually. In such cases the middle term too must be a usual event. If A is predicated universally of B, and B universally of C, A must also be predicated of C, and of *all* C; because "universally" means always and in every case. But *ex hypothesi* A is predicated usually of C. Then the middle term B must also be "usual." Thus the immediate premisses of usual events must also describe states or processes which are usual.

XIII. We have explained above how the essence is distributed among the terms,<sup>b</sup> and in what sense it does or does not admit of demonstration or definition.<sup>c</sup> Let us now consider how we should hunt for the attributes which are predicated as elements in the definition.

How to find the elements in a definition,

Of the permanent <sup>d</sup> attributes of any given subject some <sup>e</sup> have a wider application—not, however, beyond the genus. By an attribute with a wider application I mean one which applies universally to a particular subject, and also to some other. *E.g.*, there are attributes which apply to every 3 and also to what is not 3, in the way that "being" applies to 3 and also to subjects which are not numbers.<sup>f</sup> On the other hand, oddness applies to every 3, and has a

by collecting attributes shared with other species but not with other genera.

tion of an attribute the attribute must be the major, the cause the middle, and the subject the minor term (93 a 14 ff.).

<sup>e</sup> In chs. viii-x. <sup>d</sup> *i.e.*, non-accidental.

<sup>e</sup> Others—*viz.*, properties and some differentiae—do not; but they are not in question here. Note that we are now concerned with the definition of substances.

<sup>f</sup> This type is mentioned only to be dismissed, because it extends beyond the genus, number.

96 a

(καὶ γὰρ τῇ πεντάδι ὑπάρχει), ἀλλ' οὐκ ἔξω τοῦ γένους· ἡ μὲν γὰρ πεντὰς ἀριθμός, οὐδὲν δὲ ἔξω ἀριθμοῦ περιττόν. τὰ δὲ τοιαῦτα ληπτέον μέχρι τούτου, ἕως τοσαῦτα ληφθῇ πρῶτον ὧν ἕκαστον μὲν ἐπὶ πλεόν ὑπάρξει, ἅπαντα δὲ μὴ ἐπὶ πλεόν·

35 ταύτην γὰρ ἀνάγκη οὐσίαν εἶναι τοῦ πράγματος. οἷον τριάδι ὑπάρχει πάση ἀριθμός, τὸ περιττόν, τὸ πρῶτον ἀμφοτέρως, καὶ ὥς μὴ μετρεῖσθαι ἀριθμῶ καὶ ὥς μὴ συγκεῖσθαι ἐξ ἀριθμῶν. τοῦτο τοίνυν ἤδη ἐστὶν ἡ τριάς, ἀριθμὸς περιττὸς πρῶτος καὶ ὠδὶ πρῶτος. τούτων γὰρ ἕκαστον τὰ μὲν καὶ

96 b τοῖς περιττοῖς πᾶσιν ὑπάρχει, τὸ δὲ τελευταῖον καὶ τῇ δυνάδι, πάντα δὲ οὐδενί. ἐπεὶ δὲ δεδήλωται ἡμῖν ἐν τοῖς ἄνω ὅτι καθόλου<sup>1</sup> μὲν ἐστὶ τὰ ἐν τῷ τί ἐστὶ κατηγορούμενα, τὰ καθόλου δὲ ἀναγκαῖα, τῇ δὲ τριάδι καὶ ἐφ' οὗ ἄλλου οὕτω λαμβάνεται ἐν τῷ  
5 τί ἐστὶ τὰ λαμβανόμενα, οὕτως ἐξ ἀνάγκης μὲν ἂν εἴη τριάς ταῦτα. ὅτι δ' οὐσία, ἐκ τῶνδε δῆλον. ἀνάγκη γάρ, εἰ μὴ τοῦτο ἦν τριάδι εἶναι, οἷον γένος τι εἶναι τοῦτο, ἢ ὠνομασμένον ἢ ἀνώνυμον. ἔσται τοίνυν ἐπὶ πλεόν<sup>2</sup> ἢ τῇ τριάδι ὑπάρχον. ὑποκεῖσθω γὰρ τοιοῦτον εἶναι τὸ γένος ὥστε ὑπάρχειν κατὰ  
10 δύναμιν ἐπὶ πλεόν.<sup>3</sup> εἰ τοίνυν μηδενὶ ὑπάρχει ἄλλω ἢ ταῖς ἀτόμοις τριάσι, τοῦτ' ἂν εἴη τὸ τριάδι εἶναι· ὑποκεῖσθω γὰρ καὶ τοῦτο, ἢ οὐσία ἢ ἐκάστου εἶναι

<sup>1</sup> καθόλου Ross : ἀναγκαῖα codd.

<sup>2</sup> πλεῖον AB.

<sup>3</sup> πλεῖον D, Bekker.

<sup>a</sup> i.e., this complex of attributes.

<sup>b</sup> i.e., as neither having factors nor being the sum of two or more numbers.  $3 = 2 + 1$ , but 1 was regarded not as a number itself but as the "measure" or "starting-point" of number (*Met.* 1088 a 4 ff.).

wider application, because it applies to 5 too ; but it does not extend beyond the genus, because 5 is a number, and nothing outside the genus number is odd. It is attributes of this kind that we must select, up to the point where, although singly they have a wider extension of meaning than the subject, collectively they have not ; for this <sup>a</sup> must be the essence of the thing. *E.g.*, 3 has the following universal attributes : it is a number, it is odd, it is prime in both senses, as being neither measurable by number nor composed of numbers.<sup>b</sup> We now have the essence of 3 : a number, odd, prime, and prime in this particular sense. The first two of these attributes apply to all odd numbers, and the last also applies to 2 ; but no other number has them all. Now since we have shown above <sup>c</sup> that attributes which are predicated as elements in the definition are universal,<sup>d</sup> and that universal attributes are necessary, and since the selected attributes are elements in the definition of 3 (or of any other subject in the case of which they are so selected), then " threeness " must consist in just these attributes. That they

The complex of these will give the essence.

Proof that this is so.

constitute its essence is clear from the following argument. If this combination of attributes were not the essence of 3, it must be a sort of genus, either with or without a name of its own. Then its application must extend beyond 3. Let us assume that the genus is such as to have the widest possible application. Then if it applies to nothing else but individual 3s, it must be " threeness " ; for we must further assume that the essence of any given thing is the

<sup>a</sup> Book I, ch. iv. *edit. Ross* 100 b 20-21. *edit. Ross* 100 b 20-21.

<sup>d</sup> Ross's emendation, though supported by no evidence, seems to be required by the argument.

96 b

ἢ ἐπὶ τοῖς<sup>1</sup> ἀτόμοις ἔσχατος τοιαύτη κατηγορία· ὥστε ὁμοίως καὶ ἄλλω ὁτῶν τῶν οὕτω δειχθέντων τὸ αὐτῷ εἶναι ἔσται.

- 15 Χρὴ δέ, ὅταν ὅλον τι πραγματεύηται τις, διελεῖν τὸ γένος εἰς τὰ ἄτομα τῷ εἶδει τὰ πρῶτα, οἷον ἀριθμὸν εἰς τριάδα καὶ δυάδα, εἶθ' οὕτως ἐκείνων ὀρισμοὺς πειραῖσθαι λαμβάνειν, οἷον εὐθείας γραμμῆς καὶ κύκλου καὶ ὀρθῆς γωνίας, μετὰ δὲ τοῦτο λαβόν-
- 20 τα τί τὸ γένος, οἷον πότερον τῶν ποσῶν ἢ τῶν ποιῶν, τὰ ἴδια πάθη θεωρεῖν διὰ τῶν κοινῶν πρώτων. τοῖς γὰρ συντιθεμένοις ἐκ τῶν ἀτόμων τὰ συμβαίνοντα ἐκ τῶν ὀρισμῶν ἔσται δῆλα, διὰ τὸ ἀρχὴν εἶναι πάντων τὸν ὀρισμὸν καὶ τὸ ἀπλοῦν καὶ τοῖς ἀπλοῖς καθ' αὐτὰ ὑπάρχειν τὰ συμβαίνοντα
- 25 μόνοις, τοῖς δ' ἄλλοις κατ' ἐκείνα. αἱ δὲ διαιρέσεις αἱ κατὰ τὰς διαφορὰς χρήσιμοι εἰσιν εἰς τὸ οὕτω μετιέναι· ὥς μέντοι δεικνύουσιν, εἴρηται ἐν τοῖς πρότερον. χρήσιμοι δ' ἂν εἶεν ὧδε μόνον πρὸς τὸ συλλογίζεσθαι τὸ τί ἐστίν. καίτοι δόξειέν γ' ἂν οὐδέν, ἀλλ' εὐθύς λαμβάνειν ἅπαντα, ὥσπερ ἂν εἰ
- 30 ἐξ ἀρχῆς ἐλάμβανέ τις ἄνευ τῆς διαιρέσεως. διαφέρει δέ τι τὸ πρῶτον καὶ ὕστερον τῶν κατηγορουμένων κατηγορεῖσθαι, οἷον εἰπεῖν ζῶν ἢ ἡμερον δίπουν ἢ δίπουν ζῶν ἢ ἡμερον. εἰ γὰρ ἅπαν ἐκ

<sup>1</sup> τοῖς Ross : ταῖς.

<sup>a</sup> i.e., those which exhibit the properties of the genus in their simplest form. 3 and 2 are the first odd and even numbers; straight lines and circles are the simplest lines; the right angle is that by which other angles are measured



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last predicate of this kind that applies to the individuals. Similarly any other combination of attributes thus exhibited will be the essence of the subject in question.

In making a systematic study of a whole class of objects, one should first divide the genus into the primary <sup>a</sup> *infimae species* (e.g., number into 3 and 2), and then try to arrive at the definitions of these (e.g., of straight line, circle and right angle) by the methods described above; then, after ascertaining what the category of the genus is (e.g., whether it is quantity or quality), examine its peculiar properties in the light of the primary common attributes. The attributes of subjects which are compounded of these *infimae species* will become clear from the definitions (of the latter), because in every case the starting-point is the definition and the simple subject and attributes belong *per se* only to simple subjects, and to others indirectly. For investigations of this kind division in accordance with the differentiae is useful; how it exhibits the facts has been explained above.<sup>b</sup> But for inferring the essential nature of a subject its use is limited, as I shall explain. It might indeed seem that it has no use at all, but proceeds by direct assumption, just as if one took the facts for granted without employing division; but it makes an appreciable difference whether the predicates are stated in the right order, e.g., whether you say "animal, tame, two-footed," or "two-footed, animal, tame," because if every definiendum consists of and defined. When the essence of these has been grasped and formulated, we can compare their properties with those of the other *infimae species*, and so, working steadily upwards, systematize the whole genus.

Division aids the systematic study of a genus.

In a search for the essence it enables us to take attributes in the right order,

<sup>b</sup> In ch. v; cf. also *An. Pr.* I. xxxi.

96 b

δύο ἐστί, καὶ ἓν τι τὸ ζῶον ἡμέρον, καὶ πάλιν ἐκ  
 τούτου καὶ τῆς διαφορᾶς ὁ ἄνθρωπος ἢ ὅτι δῆποτ'  
 35 ἐστὶ τὸ ἐν γιγνόμενον, ἀναγκαῖον διελόμενον αἰτεῖ-  
 σθαι. ἔτι πρὸς τὸ μηδὲν παραλιπεῖν ἐν τῷ τί ἐστιν  
 οὕτω μόνως ἐνδέχεται. ὅταν γὰρ τὸ πρῶτον λη-  
 φθῇ γένος, ἂν μὲν τῶν κάτωθεν τινα διαιρέσεων  
 λαμβάνη, οὐκ ἐμπεσεῖται ἅπαν εἰς τοῦτο, οἷον οὐ  
 πᾶν ζῶον ἢ ολόπτερον ἢ σχιζόπτερον, ἀλλὰ πτηνὸν  
 97 a ζῶον ἅπαν· τούτου γὰρ διαφορὰ αὕτη. πρώτη δὲ  
 διαφορὰ ἐστὶ ζώου εἰς ἣν ἅπαν ζῶον ἐμπίπτει.  
 ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ τῶν ἄλλων ἐκάστον, καὶ τῶν ἔξω  
 γενῶν καὶ τῶν ὑπ' αὐτό, οἷον ὄρνιθος, εἰς ἣν ἅπας  
 ὄρνις, καὶ ἰχθύς, εἰς ἣν ἅπας ἰχθύς. οὕτω μὲν οὖν  
 5 βαδίζοντι ἔστιν εἰδέναι ὅτι οὐδὲν παραλέλειπται·  
 ἄλλως δὲ καὶ παραλιπεῖν ἀναγκαῖον καὶ μὴ εἰδέναι.  
 Οὐδὲν δὲ δεῖ τὸν ὀριζόμενον καὶ διαιρούμενον  
 ἅπαντα εἰδέναι τὰ ὄντα. καίτοι ἀδύνατόν φασί  
 τινες εἶναι τὰς διαφορὰς εἰδέναι τὰς πρὸς ἕκαστον  
 μὴ εἰδότα ἕκαστον· ἄνευ δὲ τῶν διαφορῶν οὐκ  
 10 εἶναι ἕκαστον εἰδέναι· οὐ γὰρ μὴ διαφέρει, ταῦτόν  
 εἶναι τούτῳ, οὐ δὲ διαφέρει, ἕτερον τούτου. πρῶτον  
 μὲν οὖν τοῦτο ψεῦδος· οὐ γὰρ κατὰ πᾶσαν διαφορὰν  
 ἕτερον· πολλὰ γὰρ διαφοραὶ ὑπάρχουσι τοῖς αὐτοῖς  
 τῷ εἶδει, ἀλλ' οὐ κατ' οὐσίαν οὐδὲ καθ' αὐτά. εἴτα

<sup>a</sup> Viz., genus and differentia. At every stage of division the compound of these becomes the generic element in the next stage below.

<sup>b</sup> All the commentators refer this argument to Speusippus. For his, Plato's and Aristotle's attitudes towards division cf.

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two elements,<sup>a</sup> and " animal, tame " is a unity, and if " man " (or whatever single species we are trying to define) consists in its turn of this genus *plus* its differentia, we must use division in assuming the elements. Besides, this is the only way to ensure that no element in the definition is omitted. If, after taking the highest genus, we next take one of the lower divisions, the class which we are dividing will not all fall into this division, *e.g.*, not every animal is either whole-winged or split-winged, although every winged animal is one or the other, because this is the class to which the differentia belongs. The primary differentia of " animal " is that into which all " animal " falls. The same applies to every one of the other genera, whether co-ordinate or subaltern; the primary differentia of " bird " or " fish " is that into which all " bird " or " fish " falls. If you proceed in this way you can be sure that nothing has been left out; otherwise omissions are bound to occur, without any possibility of detection.

and ensures that we omit nothing.

In defining by division there is no need to know all the facts. Some,<sup>b</sup> however, maintain that it is impossible to know the differentiae between each thing and the rest without knowing each thing severally, and impossible to know each thing severally without knowing the differentiae; because if A does not differ from B, they are identical, and if it does differ, they are distinct species. Now in the first place this is false, because not every differentia entails a specific distinction; many differentiae are attributable (but neither essentially nor *per se*) to things which are specifically the same. Secondly, when one takes a

To define by division one need not know *all* the facts.

Cherniss, *Aristotle's Criticism of Plato and the Academy*, i. 59-63.

97 a

- 15 ὅταν λάβῃ τὰντικείμενά καὶ τὴν διαφορὰν καὶ ὅτι πᾶν ἐμπίπτει ἐνταῦθα ἢ ἐνταῦθα, καὶ λάβῃ ἐν θατέρῳ τὸ ζητούμενον εἶναι, καὶ τοῦτο γινώσκη, οὐδὲν διαφέρει εἰδέναι ἢ μὴ εἰδέναι ἐφ' ὅσων κατηγοροῦνται ἄλλων αἱ διαφοραί. φανερόν γάρ ὅτι ἂν οὕτω βαδίζων ἔλθῃ εἰς ταῦτα ὧν μηκέτι ἔστι δια-  
 20 φορά, ἔξει τὸν λόγον τῆς οὐσίας. τὸ δ' ἅπαν ἐμπίπτειν εἰς τὴν διαίρεσιν, ἂν ἢ ἀντικείμενα ὧν μὴ ἔστι μεταξύ, οὐκ αἴτημα· ἀνάγκη γὰρ ἅπαν ἐν θατέρῳ αὐτῶν εἶναι, εἴπερ ἐκείνου διαφορά ἐστι.<sup>1</sup>

Εἰς δὲ τὸ κατασκευάζειν ὅρον διὰ τῶν διαιρέσεων τριῶν δεῖ στοχάζεσθαι, τοῦ λαβεῖν τὰ κατη-  
 25 γορούμενα ἐν τῷ τί ἐστι, καὶ ταῦτα τάξαι τί πρῶτον ἢ δεύτερον, καὶ ὅτι ταῦτα πάντα. ἔστι δὲ τούτων ἐν πρῶτον διὰ τοῦ δύνασθαι, ὥσπερ πρὸς συμβεβηκὸς συλλογίσασθαι ὅτι ὑπάρχει, καὶ διὰ τοῦ γένους κατασκευάσαι. τὸ δὲ τάξαι ὡς δεῖ ἔσται ἐὰν τὸ πρῶτον λάβῃ. τοῦτο δ' ἔσται ἐὰν ληφθῇ ὁ πᾶσιν  
 30 ἀκολουθεῖ, ἐκείνῳ δὲ μὴ πάντα· ἀνάγκη γὰρ εἶναί τι τοιοῦτον. ληφθέντος δὲ τούτου ἤδη ἐπὶ τῶν κάτω ὁ αὐτὸς τρόπος· δεύτερον γὰρ τὸ τῶν ἄλλων πρῶτον ἔσται, καὶ τρίτον τὸ τῶν ἐχομένων· ἀφαιρεθέντος γὰρ τοῦ ἄνωθεν τὸ ἐχόμενον τῶν

<sup>1</sup> ἐστι d, comm. (?), Ross : ἔσται.

<sup>a</sup> i.e., the definition.

<sup>b</sup> A topic (τόπος) is a commonplace of argument, or set of rules for cogent reasoning, such as are to be found in Aristotle's *Topics*. They are not scientific but dialectical, since they are based upon premisses which are not necessarily true, but merely probable as being generally accepted. They are valuable both as an equipment for serious debate and as a supplement to scientific discussion, since they help (as in



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pair of opposite attributes and the differentia which distinguishes them, and assumes that every individual falls under one or the other, and then assumes that the given term is contained in one of the two, and knows that class, it does not matter whether he knows or does not know all the other terms of which the differentiae are predicable ; because clearly, if he proceeds in this way until he reaches the point where there is no further differentia, he will have the formula of the essence.<sup>a</sup> It is not an " assumption " to assert that every member of the genus must fall under one or the other division, if the opposites are exhaustive ; because every member of a genus must be in one or the other of two species distinguished by a differentia of that genus.

In order to establish a definition by division, we must keep three things in mind : (1) to select attributes which describe the essence, (2) to arrange them in order of priority, and (3) to make sure that the selection is complete. (1) The first object can be achieved through the possibility of establishing the genus and differentia by the topic <sup>b</sup> of genus, just as we can infer the inherence of an attribute by the topic of accident. (2) We can arrange the attributes correctly if we take first the first in order, *i.e.*, that which is implied by, but does not imply, all the rest ; there must be *one* such term. When we have selected this, we can proceed at once in the same way with the lower terms ; the second will be the first of the remainder, and the third the first of those immediately following (because when the first of a series

Three rules  
to observe.

the present instance) to establish facts or judgements which do not admit of actual demonstration. Books II and III of the *Topics* deal with accidents and Book IV with genera.

97 a

ἄλλων πρῶτον ἔσται. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων.

35 ὅτι δ' ἅπαντα ταῦτα φανερόν ἐκ τοῦ λαβεῖν τό τε πρῶτον κατὰ διαίρεσιν, ὅτι ἅπαν ἢ τόδε ἢ τόδε ζῶον, ὑπάρχει δὲ τόδε, καὶ πάλιν τούτου ὅλου τὴν διαφοράν, τοῦ δὲ τελευταίου μηκέτι εἶναι διαφοράν, ἢ καὶ εὐθὺς μετὰ τῆς τελευταίας διαφορᾶς τοῦ

97 b συνόλου μὴ διαφέρειν εἶδει ἔτι<sup>1</sup> τοῦτο. δῆλον γὰρ ὅτι οὔτε πλείον πρόσκειται (πάντα γὰρ ἐν τῷ τί ἐστίν εἰληπται τούτων) οὔτε ἀπολείπει οὐδέν· ἢ γὰρ γένος ἢ διαφορὰ ἂν εἴη. γένος μὲν οὖν τό τε πρῶτον, καὶ μετὰ τῶν διαφορῶν τοῦτο προσλαμ-  
5 βανόμενον· αἱ διαφοραὶ δὲ πᾶσαι ἔχονται· οὐ γὰρ ἔτι ἔστιν ὑστέρα· εἶδει γὰρ ἂν διεφέρε τὸ τελευταῖον, τοῦτο δ' εἴρηται μὴ διαφέρειν.

Ζητεῖν δὲ δεῖ ἐπιβλέποντα ἐπὶ τὰ ὅμοια καὶ ἀδιάφορα, πρῶτον τί ἅπαντα ταῦτὸν ἔχουσιν, εἰτα πάλιν ἐφ' ἑτέροις, ἃ ἐν ταύτῳ μὲν γένει ἐκείνοις,  
10 εἰσὶ δὲ αὐτοῖς<sup>2</sup> μὲν ταῦτά τῳ εἶδει, ἐκείνων δ' ἕτερα. ὅταν δ' ἐπὶ τούτων ληφθῇ τί πάντα ταῦτόν, καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων ὁμοίως, ἐπὶ τῶν εἰλημμένων πάλιν σκοπεῖν εἰ ταῦτόν, ἕως ἂν εἰς ἓνα ἔλθῃ λόγον· οὗτος γὰρ ἔσται τοῦ πράγματος ὁρισμός.

<sup>1</sup> εἶδει ἔτι B<sup>1</sup> (?) : τῳ εἶδει ἔτι n : εἴ τι Ad : εἶδει B<sup>2</sup>, comm.

<sup>2</sup> αὐτοῖς A<sup>2</sup>, Eustratius : αὐτάs.

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is removed, the next is the first of the remainder) ; and so on. (3) The completeness of our selection is evident from the fact that we first take the first class to be divided, and assume that every animal is either A or B, and then that one of these differentiae belongs to it ; and next take the differentia of the whole class thus obtained, until the class which we finally reach has no further differentia : *i.e.*, as soon as we have assumed the last differentia which characterizes the complex term (to be defined), the latter is not further divisible into species. Clearly nothing superfluous is included, because all the attributes have been assumed as forming part of the essence ; and nothing is left out—if it were, it would have to be either a genus or a differentia ; now the first term is a genus, and so is the combination of this term with its differentiae ; and the differentiae are all included, because we have reached a point at which there is no further differentiation. If there were, the last term would be divisible into species ; and we have laid down that it is not.

We must set about our search by looking out for a group of things which are alike in the sense of being specifically indifferent, and asking what they all have in common ; then we must do the same with another group in the same genus and belonging to the same species as one another but to a species different from that of the first group. When we have discovered in the case of this second group what its members have in common, and similarly in the case of all the other groups, we must consider again whether the common features which we have established have any feature which is common to them all, until we reach a single expression. This will be the required definition.

How to  
reach a  
general  
definition.

Ἐὰν δὲ μὴ βαδίζῃ εἰς ἓνα ἀλλ' εἰς δύο ἢ πλείους,<sup>1</sup>  
 15 δῆλον ὅτι οὐκ ἂν εἴη ἓν τι εἶναι τὸ ζητούμενον, ἀλλὰ  
 πλείω. οἶον λέγω, εἰ τί ἐστι μεγαλοψυχία ζητοῦ-  
 μεν, σκεπτέον ἐπὶ τινων μεγαλοψύχων οὓς ἴσμεν τί  
 ἔχουσιν ἓν πάντες ἢ τοιοῦτοι. οἶον εἰ Ἀλκιβιάδης  
 μεγαλόψυχος ἢ ὁ Ἀχιλλεὺς καὶ ὁ Αἴας, τί ἓν  
 ἅπαντες; τὸ μὴ ἀνέχεσθαι ὑβριζόμενοι· ὁ μὲν γὰρ  
 20 ἐπολέμησεν, ὁ δ' ἐμήνισεν, ὁ δ' ἀπέκτεινεν ἑαυτόν.  
 πάλιν ἐφ' ἐτέρων, οἶον Λυσάνδρου ἢ Σωκράτους.  
 εἰ δὴ τὸ ἀδιάφοροι εἶναι εὐτυχοῦντες καὶ ἀτυχοῦν-  
 τες, ταῦτα δύο λαβὼν σκοπῶ τί τὸ αὐτὸ ἔχουσιν ἢ  
 τε ἀπάθεια ἢ περὶ τὰς τύχας καὶ ἢ μὴ ὑπομονή  
 25 ἀτιμαζομένων. εἰ δὲ μηδέν, δύο εἶδη ἂν εἴη τῆς  
 μεγαλοψυχίας. αἰεὶ δ' ἐστὶ πᾶς ὅρος καθόλου· οὐ  
 γάρ τινι ὀφθαλμῷ λέγει τὸ ὑγιεινὸν ὁ ἰατρός, ἀλλ'  
 ἢ παντὶ ἢ εἶδει ἀφορίσας.

Ῥᾶόν τε τὸ καθ' ἕκαστον ὀρίσασθαι ἢ τὸ καθόλου·  
 διὸ δεῖ ἀπὸ τῶν καθ' ἕκαστα ἐπὶ τὰ καθόλου μετα-  
 30 βαίνειν· καὶ γὰρ αἱ ὁμώνυμοι λανθάνουσι μᾶλλον  
 ἐν τοῖς καθόλου ἢ ἐν τοῖς ἀδιαφόροις. ὥσπερ δὲ  
 ἐν ταῖς ἀποδείξεσι δεῖ τό γε συλλελογίσθαι<sup>2</sup> ὑπάρ-  
 χειν, οὕτω καὶ ἐν τοῖς ὅροις τὸ σαφές. τοῦτο δ'  
 ἔσται ἂν διὰ τῶν καθ' ἕκαστον εἰλημμένων<sup>3</sup> ἢ τὸ  
 ἐν ἐκάστω γένει ὀρίζεσθαι χωρίς, οἶον τὸ ὅμοιον

<sup>1</sup> πλείους comm. : πλείω codd.

<sup>2</sup> συλλογίσασθαι Ad.

<sup>3</sup> εἰλημμένων Eustratius (?), Mure : εἰρημένων codd., Philo-  
 ponus.

<sup>a</sup> This seems to be the least unsatisfactory rendering of a difficult word, which for most Greeks ranked as a virtue. "Pride," advocated by Burnet and accepted by Ross, scarcely conveys this effect. The quality is discussed in *Eth. Nic.* 1123 a 34 ff.



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If the series ends not in one expression but in two or more, clearly the definiendum cannot be one thing; it must be more than one. I mean, for example, supposing that we require a definition of high-mindedness,<sup>a</sup> we must consider individual high-minded persons whom we know, and see what one characteristic they all have *qua* high-minded. *E.g.*, if Alcibiades and Achilles and Ajax were high-minded, what was their common characteristic? Intolerance of dishonour; for this made the first go to war, roused the wrath of the second, and drove the third to commit suicide. Then we must apply the same process to another group, *e.g.*, Lysander and Socrates. Suppose that here the common characteristic is being unaffected by good and bad fortune. Now I take these two and consider what there is in common between indifference to fortune and intolerance of dishonour; and if there is nothing, there must be two kinds of high-mindedness.<sup>b</sup> But every definition is always universal. A doctor prescribes what is salutary not for some one eye but for all eyes, or for the eye in a specific condition.

The term to be defined may prove to be equivocal.

It is easier to define the particular<sup>c</sup> than the universal; and therefore we should proceed from particulars to universals. Ambiguities, too, are harder to detect in universals than in *infimae species*. Just as demonstration demands a completed inference, so definition demands clarity; and this will be achieved if we can, by means of the common features which we have established, define our concept separately in each class of objects (*e.g.*, define similarity not in

By working up from particulars we secure clarity and precision.

<sup>b</sup> *i.e.*, the term is equivocal, being used to describe two distinct species.

<sup>c</sup> Not, of course, the individual (which is undefinable), but the species as opposed to the genus.

97 b

35 μὴ πᾶν ἀλλὰ τὸ ἐν χρώμασι καὶ σχήμασι, καὶ ὅξυ τὸ ἐν φωνῇ, καὶ οὕτως ἐπὶ τὸ κοινὸν βαδίζειν, εὐλαβούμενον μὴ ὁμωνυμία ἐντύχη. εἰ δὲ μὴ διαλέγεσθαι δεῖ μεταφοραῖς, δῆλον ὅτι οὐδ' ὀρίζεσθαι οὔτε μεταφοραῖς οὔτε ὅσα λέγεται μεταφοραῖς· διαλέγεσθαι γὰρ ἀνάγκη ἔσται μεταφοραῖς.

98 a XIV. Πρὸς δὲ τὸ ἔχειν τὰ προβλήματα ἐκλέγειν δεῖ τὰς τε ἀνατομὰς καὶ τὰς διαιρέσεις, οὕτω δὲ ἐκλέγειν, ὑποθέμενον τὸ γένος τὸ κοινὸν ἀπάντων, οἷον εἰ ζῶα εἴη τὰ τεθεωρημένα, ποῖα παντὶ ζῳῷ 5 ὑπάρχει, ληφθέντων δὲ τούτων, πάλιν τῶν λοιπῶν τῷ πρώτῳ ποῖα παντὶ ἔπεται, οἷον εἰ τοῦτο ὄρνις, ποῖα παντὶ ἔπεται ὄρνιθι, καὶ οὕτως αἰεὶ τῷ ἐγγύτατα· δῆλον γὰρ ὅτι ἔξομεν ἤδη λέγειν τὸ διὰ τί ὑπάρχει τὰ ἐπόμενα τοῖς ὑπὸ τὸ κοινόν, οἷον διὰ τί ἀνθρώπῳ ἢ ἵππῳ ὑπάρχει. ἔστω δὲ ζῶον ἐφ' οὗ 10 A, τὸ δὲ B τὰ ἐπόμενα παντὶ ζῳῷ, ἐφ' ὧν δὲ Γ Δ E τὰ τινὰ ζῶα. δῆλον δὴ διὰ τί τὸ B ὑπάρχει τῷ Δ· διὰ γὰρ τὸ<sup>1</sup> A. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ τοῖς ἄλλοις· καὶ αἰεὶ ἐπὶ τῶν κάτω<sup>2</sup> ὁ αὐτὸς λόγος.

Nῦν μὲν οὖν κατὰ τὰ παραδεδομένα κοινὰ ὀνόματα λέγομεν, δεῖ δὲ μὴ μόνον ἐπὶ τούτων σκοπεῖν, 15 ἀλλὰ καὶ ἂν ἄλλο τι ὀφθῇ ὑπάρχον κοινὸν ἐκλαμβάνοντα, εἴτα τίσι τοῦτ' ἀκολουθεῖ καὶ ποῖα τούτῳ ἔπεται, οἷον τοῖς κέρατα ἔχουσι τὸ ἔχειν ἐχίνον, τὸ

<sup>1</sup> τὸ n, Eustratius : τοῦ.

<sup>2</sup> κάτω n : ἄλλων.

<sup>a</sup> i.e., the propositions or connexions which we are required to prove.

general but in respect of colours or shapes, and define sharpness in respect of sound), and so advance to the general definition, taking care not to become involved in equivocation. If we are to avoid arguing in metaphors, clearly we must also avoid defining in metaphors and defining metaphorical terms ; otherwise we are bound to argue in metaphors.

XIV. In order to formulate the problems <sup>a</sup> (of a given science) we must select the proper sections or divisions <sup>b</sup> ; and that in the following way. We must first posit the genus which is common to all the particulars ; *e.g.*, if the subject of our study is animals, we must establish what attributes belong to every animal. When we have done this, we must next consider all the attributes belonging to the first of the remaining classes ; *e.g.*, if this class is " bird," we must consider what attributes belong to every bird ; and so on, always taking the proximate sub-genus. In this way we shall obviously be able directly to show the reason why the attributes belong to each of the sub-genera, such as " man " or " horse." Let A stand for animal, B for the attributes belonging to every animal, and C, D, E for species of animal. Then it is obvious why B applies to D, *viz.*, through A ; and similarly with C and E. The same principle holds for all the other sub-genera.

Division helps us to formulate problems correctly.

At the moment we are using the traditional class-names, but we must not confine ourselves to these in our inquiry ; we must pick out any other observed common characteristic, and then consider to what subjects it belongs, and what properties it entails : *e.g.*, in the case of horned animals, the possession of

<sup>b</sup> *Sc.*, of the subject-matter. The whole field must be mapped out by genera and species.

μὴ ἀμφώδοντ' εἶναι· πάλιν τὸ κέρατ' ἔχειν τίσιν ἔπεται. δῆλον γὰρ διὰ τί ἐκείνοις ὑπάρξει τὸ εἰρημένον· διὰ γὰρ τὸ κέρατ' ἔχειν ὑπάρξει.

- 20 "Ἐτι δ' ἄλλος τρόπος ἐστὶ κατὰ τὸ ἀνάλογον ἐκλέγειν. ἐν γὰρ λαβεῖν οὐκ ἔστι τὸ αὐτὸ ὃ δεῖ καλέσαι σήπιον<sup>1</sup> καὶ ἄκανθαν καὶ ὀστοῦν· ἔσται<sup>2</sup> δ' ἐπόμενα καὶ τούτοις ὥσπερ μιᾶς τινος φύσεως τῆς τοιαύτης οὔσης.

XV. Τὰ δ' αὐτὰ προβλήματα ἐστὶ τὰ μὲν τῷ τὸ  
25 αὐτὸ μέσον ἔχειν, οἷον ὅτι πάντα ἀντιπερίστασις. τούτων δ' ἓν αὖ γένει ταῦτά, ὅσα ἔχει διαφορὰς τῷ ἄλλων ἢ ἄλλως εἶναι, οἷον διὰ τί ἡχεῖ, ἢ διὰ τί ἐμφαίνεται, καὶ διὰ τί ἱρίς· ἅπαντα γὰρ ταῦτα τὸ αὐτὸ πρόβλημά ἐστι γένει (πάντα γὰρ ἀνάκλασις), ἀλλ' εἶδει ἕτερα.

- 30 Τὰ δὲ τῷ τὸ μέσον ὑπὸ τὸ ἕτερον μέσον εἶναι διαφέρει τῶν προβλημάτων, οἷον διὰ τί ὁ Νεῖλος φθίνοντος τοῦ μηνὸς μᾶλλον ρεῖ; διότι χειμεριώτερος φθίνων ὁ μείς.<sup>3</sup> διὰ τί δὲ χειμεριώτερος φθίνων; διότι ἡ σελήνη ἀπολείπει. ταῦτα γὰρ οὕτως ἔχει πρὸς ἄλληλα.

<sup>1</sup> σήπιον n, Eustratius : σήπειον vel σηπεῖον.

<sup>2</sup> ἔσται dn, Philoponus : ἔστι.

<sup>3</sup> μείς n : μήν volgo, sed ὁ . . . φθίνων om. ABd.

<sup>a</sup> i.e., front teeth in the lower jaw only.

<sup>b</sup> The extra material for the horns is secured at the cost of the upper front teeth (*Part. An.* 663 b 31 ff.); and nature compensates the deficiency of teeth by amplifying the apparatus of digestion (*ibid.* 674 a 22 ff.).

<sup>c</sup> "Pounce" is the internal shell of a cuttle-fish, and "spine" a fish-bone. They are analogues of animal bone, and all three must fall under one genus.



a third stomach and a single row of teeth <sup>a</sup>; and then ask "What animals have the property of possessing horns?" It will be obvious why the specified characteristic belongs to these animals, *viz.*, because they have horns.<sup>b</sup>

There is another method of selection, *viz.*, by analogy. It is impossible to find a single name which should be applied to pounce, spine and bone <sup>c</sup>; yet the fact that these too have (common) properties implies that there is a single natural substance of this kind.

XV. Some problems are identical in virtue of having the same middle term; *e.g.*, they may all be explained by the principle of reciprocal replacement.<sup>d</sup> Of these middle terms some are (only) generically identical, *viz.*, such as differ in virtue of having different subjects, or operating in different ways: *e.g.*, the phenomena of echo, reflection and rainbow; in all these the problem is generically the same (because they are all kinds of refraction) but specifically different.

Problems may have middle terms which are identical

Other problems differ (only) in the fact that the middle term of the one is subordinate <sup>e</sup> to the middle term of the other. *E.g.*, why does the Nile flow fuller in the latter part of the month? Because the weather is more stormy then. And why is the weather more stormy then? Because the moon is waning. The relation of the two middles is one of subordination.

or subordinate one to the other.

<sup>a</sup> The principle (since for Aristotle there is no void: *Phys.* IV. vii-ix, especially 214 a 28-32) that the space vacated by one body (A) in displacing another (B) must be occupied either by B or by another body displaced by B (Simplicius, *Phys.* 1350. 31). Ross *ad loc.* instances various phenomena susceptible of this explanation.

<sup>e</sup> As a cause.

98 a

35 XVI. Περὶ δ' αἰτίου καὶ οὐ αἴτιον ἀπορήσειε μὲν ἂν τις, ἄρα ὅτε ὑπάρχει τὸ αἰτιατόν, καὶ τὸ αἴτιον ὑπάρχει (ὥσπερ εἰ φυλλορροεῖ ἢ ἐκλείπει, καὶ τὸ αἴτιον τοῦ ἐκλείπειν ἢ φυλλορροεῖν ἔσται· οἷον εἰ

98 b

τουτ' ἔστι τὸ πλατέα ἔχειν τὰ φύλλα, τοῦ δ' ἐκλείπειν τὸ τὴν γῆν ἐν μέσῳ εἶναι· εἰ γὰρ μὴ ὑπάρχει, ἄλλο τι ἔσται τὸ αἴτιον αὐτῶν). εἴ τε<sup>1</sup> τὸ αἴτιον ὑπάρχει, ἅμα καὶ τὸ αἰτιατόν, οἷον εἰ ἐν μέσῳ ἡ γῆ, ἐκλείπει, ἢ εἰ πλατύφυλλον, φυλλορροεῖ. εἰ δ' οὕτως, ἅμ' ἂν εἴη καὶ δεικνύοιτο δι' ἀλλήλων. ἔστω γὰρ τὸ φυλλορροεῖν ἐφ' οὗ A, τὸ δὲ πλατύφυλλον ἐφ' οὗ B, ἄμπελος δὲ ἐφ' οὗ Γ. εἰ δὴ τῷ B ὑπάρχει τὸ A (πᾶν γὰρ πλατύφυλλον φυλλορροεῖ), τῷ δὲ Γ ὑπάρχει τὸ B (πᾶσα γὰρ ἄμπελος πλατύφυλλος), τῷ Γ ὑπάρχει τὸ A, καὶ πᾶσα ἄμπελος φυλλορροεῖ. αἴτιον δὲ τὸ B τὸ μέσον. ἀλλὰ καὶ ὅτι πλατύφυλλον ἢ ἄμπελος ἔστι διὰ τοῦ φυλλορροεῖν ἀποδείξαι. ἔστω γὰρ τὸ μὲν Δ πλατύφυλλον, τὸ δὲ E τὸ φυλλορροεῖν, ἄμπελος δὲ ἐφ' οὗ Z. τῷ δὴ Z ὑπάρχει τὸ E (φυλλορροεῖ γὰρ πᾶσα ἄμπελος), τῷ δὲ E τὸ Δ (ἅπαν γὰρ τὸ φυλλορροοῦν πλατύφυλλον). πᾶσα ἄρα ἄμπελος πλατύφυλλον. αἴτιον δὲ τὸ φυλλορροεῖν. εἰ δὲ μὴ ἐνδέχεται αἴτια εἶναι ἀλλήλων (τὸ γὰρ αἴτιον πρότερον οὐ αἴτιον, καὶ τοῦ μὲν ἐκλείπειν αἴτιον τὸ ἐν μέσῳ τὴν γῆν εἶναι,

<sup>1</sup> εἴ τε] εἴτε AB: εἴ γε n.

<sup>a</sup> This punctuation of the passage (*i.e.*, treating ὥσπερ . . .

XVI. With regard to cause and effect the questions might be raised (1) whether the presence of the effect implies the presence of the cause (*e.g.*, whether, if a tree sheds its leaves or an eclipse occurs, the cause of the eclipse or of the leaf-shedding must also be present—*viz.*, in the latter case the fact that the tree is broad-leaved, and in the former the fact of the earth's interposition—because if the cause is not present there must be some other cause of these effects)<sup>a</sup>; and (2) whether, if the cause is present, the effect will be present too (*e.g.*, if the earth interposes there is an eclipse, or if the tree is broad-leaved it is deciduous). If so,<sup>b</sup> cause and effect will be compresent and reciprocally demonstrable. Let A stand for "deciduous," B for "broad-leaved" and C for "vine." Then if A applies to B (since all broad-leaved plants are deciduous) and B to C (since all vines are broad-leaved), A applies to C, *i.e.*, all vines are deciduous. The cause is the middle term B. But we can also prove that the vine is broad-leaved because it is deciduous. Let D be "broad-leaved," E "deciduous" and F "vine." Then E applies to F (since every vine is deciduous) and D to E (since every deciduous plant is broad-leaved); therefore all vines are broad-leaved. Here the cause is "shedding leaves." But since it is impossible for two things to be causes of each other (for the cause is prior<sup>c</sup> to its effect, and it is the interposition of the earth that is

Do cause and effect entail each other?

Yes, but the effect does not explain the cause.

αὐτῶν as a parenthesis) had suggested itself to me before I knew that Ross had adopted it. It certainly tidies up the sense, and I think it must be right.

<sup>b</sup> *i.e.*, if both answers are affirmative.

<sup>c</sup> Not necessarily in time, for the formal cause is simultaneous with its effect (95 a 14 ff.); but naturally and logically.

τοῦ δ' ἐν μέσῳ τὴν γῆν εἶναι οὐκ αἷτιον τὸ ἐκλεί-  
 20 πειν)—εἰ οὖν ἡ μὲν διὰ τοῦ αἰτίου ἀπόδειξις τοῦ  
 διὰ τί, ἡ δὲ μὴ διὰ τοῦ αἰτίου τοῦ ὅτι, ὅτι μὲν ἐν μέ-  
 σω οἶδε, διότι δ' οὐ. ὅτι δ' οὐ τὸ ἐκλείπειν αἷτιον  
 τοῦ ἐν μέσῳ, ἀλλὰ τοῦτο τοῦ ἐκλείπειν, φανερόν·  
 ἐν γὰρ τῷ λόγῳ τῷ τοῦ ἐκλείπειν ἐνυπάρχει τὸ ἐν  
 μέσῳ, ὥστε δῆλον ὅτι διὰ τούτου ἐκείνο γνωρί-  
 ζεται, ἀλλ' οὐ τοῦτο δι' ἐκείνου.

25 Ἡ ἐνδέχεται ἐνὸς πλείω αἷτια εἶναι; καὶ γὰρ εἰ  
 ἔστι τὸ αὐτὸ πλείονων πρώτων κατηγορεῖσθαι, ἔστω  
 τὸ Α τῷ Β πρώτῳ ὑπάρχον, καὶ τῷ Γ ἄλλῳ πρώτῳ,  
 καὶ ταῦτα τοῖς Δ Ε. ὑπάρξει ἄρα τὸ Α τοῖς Δ Ε,  
 αἷτιον δὲ τῷ μὲν Δ τὸ Β τῷ δὲ Ε τὸ Γ· ὥστε τοῦ  
 30 μὲν αἰτίου ὑπάρχοντος ἀνάγκη τὸ πρᾶγμα ὑπάρ-  
 χειν, τοῦ δὲ πράγματος ὑπάρχοντος οὐκ ἀνάγκη  
 πᾶν ὃ ἂν ἡ αἷτιον, ἀλλ' αἷτιον μὲν, οὐ μέντοι  
 πᾶν.

Ἡ εἰ ἀεὶ καθόλου τὸ πρόβλημά ἐστι, καὶ τὸ  
 αἷτιον ὅλον τι καὶ οὐ αἷτιον καθόλου; οἷον τὸ  
 φυλλορροεῖν ὅλῳ τινὶ ἀφωρισμένον, καὶ εἶδη αὐτοῦ  
 35 ἡ, καὶ τοισδὶ καθόλου, ἡ φυτοῖς ἡ τοιοισδὶ φυτοῖς·  
 ὥστε καὶ τὸ μέσον ἴσον δεῖ εἶναι ἐπὶ τούτων καὶ  
 οὐ αἷτιον, καὶ ἀντιστρέφειν. οἷον διὰ τί τὰ δένδρα  
 φυλλορροεῖ; εἰ δὴ διὰ πῆξιν τοῦ ὑγροῦ, εἴτε φυλ-

<sup>1</sup> τοιοισδὶ] τοιοῖσδε ABd.

<sup>a</sup> i.e., through the effect.



the cause of the eclipse, and not *vice versa*)—if demonstration by means of the cause proves the reasoned fact, while demonstration not through the cause<sup>a</sup> proves the mere fact, ⟨one who reasons in the latter way⟩ knows the fact of the earth's interposition, but not the reason for it. That the earth's interposition is the cause of the eclipse, and not *vice versa*, is obvious from the fact that the former is an element in the definition of the latter ; which clearly shows that we obtain our knowledge of the latter through the former, and not *vice versa*.

Or is it possible for one effect to have several causes ? If the same attribute can be predicated immediately of more than one subject, let A apply immediately to B and likewise to C, and let B and C apply immediately to D and E respectively. Then A will apply to D and E, the causes being B and C respectively. Thus the presence of the cause necessarily implies that of the effect, but the presence of the effect does not necessarily imply that of the whole range of possible causes ; it implies *some* cause, but not *every* cause.

Can there be several causes of one effect ?

But surely if the " problem " is always universal,<sup>b</sup> the cause is a whole, and the effect is ⟨commensurately⟩ universal. *E.g.*, deciduousness is appropriated to a subject as a whole ; and if this consists of species, the attribute belongs to these also universally : either to plants or to particular species of plants ; hence in the case of these the middle term and the effect must be commensurate and convertible. *E.g.*, why are trees deciduous ? If it is because there is coagulation of the sap,<sup>c</sup> then if a tree is

No ; the cause is a whole and commensurate with the effect.

<sup>b</sup> As it must be, since it is a scientific proposition.

<sup>c</sup> *Sc.*, at the junction of the leaf-stalk (99 a 29).

98 b

λορροεῖ δένδρον, δεῖ ὑπάρχειν πῆξιν, εἴτε πῆξις ὑπάρχει, μὴ ὅτωσιν ἀλλὰ δένδρῳ, φυλλορροεῖν.

99 a

XVII. Πότερον δ' ἐνδέχεται μὴ τὸ αὐτὸ αἷτιον εἶναι τοῦ αὐτοῦ πᾶσιν ἀλλ' ἕτερον, ἢ οὐ; ἢ εἰ μὲν καθ' αὐτὸ ἀποδέδεικται καὶ μὴ κατὰ σημεῖον ἢ συμβεβηκός, οὐχ οἶόν τε; ὁ γὰρ λόγος τοῦ ἄκρου  
 5 τὸ μέσον ἐστίν· εἰ δὲ μὴ οὕτως, ἐνδέχεται. ἔστι δὲ καὶ οὗ αἷτιον καὶ ᾧ σκοπεῖν κατὰ συμβεβηκός· οὐ μὴν δοκεῖ προβλήματα εἶναι. εἰ δὲ μή, ὁμοίως ἔξει τὸ μέσον· εἰ μὲν ὁμώνυμα, ὁμώνυμον τὸ μέσον· εἰ δ' ὡς ἐν γένει, ὁμοίως ἔξει. οἶον διὰ τί καὶ ἐναλλάξ ἀνάλογον; ἄλλο γὰρ αἷτιον ἐν γραμμαῖς  
 10 καὶ ἀριθμοῖς καὶ τὸ αὐτό γε, ἥ μὲν γραμμῇ,<sup>1</sup> ἄλλο, ἥ δ' ἔχον αὐξήσιν τοιανδί, τὸ αὐτό. οὕτως ἐπὶ πάντων. τοῦ δ' ὅμοιον εἶναι χρῶμα χρώματι καὶ σχῆμα σχήματι ἄλλο ἄλλῳ. ὁμώνυμον γὰρ τὸ ὅμοιον ἐπὶ τούτων· ἔνθα μὲν γὰρ ἴσως τὸ ἀνάλογον ἔχειν τὰς πλευρὰς καὶ ἴσας τὰς γωνίας, ἐπὶ δὲ

<sup>1</sup> γραμμῇ n : γραμμαί.

<sup>a</sup> This chapter appears to contain an alternative and presumably later treatment of the problem discussed in ch. xvi.

<sup>b</sup> An event has only one formal cause, which is present in every instance; but it may be inferred from any of the various properties which are its "signs" (cf. *An. Pr.* II. xxvii); and may have any number of accidental causes.

<sup>c</sup> Because a "problem" is a scientific proposition, and accidents lie outside the sphere of scientific knowledge.

<sup>d</sup> Since the examples which follow do not illustrate accidental relations, εἰ δὲ μή must be taken (as Ross takes it) to indicate their exclusion—in spite of the commentators, who understand it to refer to οὐ δοκεῖ.

<sup>e</sup> Aristotle notes three different cases in which the same effect has, in a sense, different causes. (a) The major may be equivocal: as "similar" has different meanings in different

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deciduous, there must be coagulation ; and if coagulation is present—not in any and every subject, but in a tree—the tree must be deciduous.

XVII. Can the same effect be produced not by the same cause in all cases but (sometimes) by a different cause ? <sup>a</sup> Surely this is (1) impossible if the effect has been demonstrated as essential (not proved from a “sign” or through an accidental connexion), <sup>b</sup> for then the middle is the definition of the major term ; (2) possible if it has not. It is possible to consider the effect and its subject in an accidental relation, but such connexions are not regarded as “problems.” <sup>c</sup> Apart from the accidental relation, <sup>d</sup> the middle will correspond to the extreme <sup>e</sup> terms : (a) if they are equivocal, the middle will be equivocal, and (b) if they express a generic connexion, so will the middle. For example, (b) “why do proportionals alternate ?” <sup>f</sup> The cause is different for lines and for numbers, and yet it is the same ; different if the lines are considered as lines, and the same if they are considered as exhibiting a given increment. So with all proportionals. (a) The cause of similarity between colours is different from that of similarity between figures, because “similarity” in these two cases is equivocal ; in the latter it means, presumably, that the sides are proportional and the angles equal, while in colours it means that our perception

Can the same effect have different causes ? Only if the relation is non-essential.

genera, so has the middle which is the cause of similarity. (b) The major may apply to a whole genus (*e.g.*, quantity), of which different species may be taken as subjects : then the middle term will vary with the subject. (c) Analogical connexions (*cf.* 98 a 20 ff.) are in one sense the same and in another different : so are their causes.

<sup>1</sup> The reference is to the theory of proportion mentioned at 74 a 17, where see note.

15 χρωμάτων τὸ τὴν αἴσθησιν μίαν εἶναι ἢ τι ἄλλο τοιοῦτον. τὰ δὲ κατ' ἀναλογίαν τὰ αὐτὰ καὶ τὸ μέσον ἔξει κατὰ ἀναλογίαν.

"Ἐχει δ' οὕτω τὸ παρακολουθεῖν τὸ αἷτιον ἀλλή-  
λοις καὶ οὐ αἷτιον καὶ ὧ αἷτιον· καθ' ἕκαστον μὲν  
λαμβάνοντι τὸ οὐ αἷτιον ἐπὶ πλέον, οἷον τὸ τέτταρ-  
20 σιν ἴσας τὰς ἔξω ἐπὶ πλέον ἢ τρίγωνον ἢ τετράγωνον,  
ἅπασιν δὲ ἐπ' ἴσον (ὅσα γὰρ τέτταρσιν ὀρθαῖς ἴσας  
τὰς ἔξω)· καὶ τὸ μέσον ὁμοίως. ἔστι δὲ τὸ μέσον  
λόγος τοῦ πρώτου ἄκρου, διὸ πᾶσαι αἱ ἐπιστῆμαι  
δι' ὁρισμοῦ γίνονται. οἷον τὸ φυλλορροεῖν ἅμα  
ἀκολουθεῖ τῇ ἀμπέλῳ καὶ ὑπερέχει, καὶ συκῇ καὶ  
25 ὑπερέχει· ἀλλ' οὐ πάντων, ἀλλ' ἴσον. εἰ δὲ λάβοις  
τὸ πρῶτον μέσον, λόγος τοῦ φυλλορροεῖν ἐστίν.  
ἔσται γὰρ πρῶτον μὲν ἐπὶ θάτερα μέσον, ὅτι τοιαδὶ  
ἅπαντα· εἶτα τούτου μέσον, ὅτι ὁπὸς πηγνυται ἢ τι  
ἄλλο τοιοῦτον. τί δ' ἐστὶ τὸ φυλλορροεῖν; τὸ  
πηγνυσθαι τὸν ἐν τῇ συνάψει τοῦ σπέρματος ὁπόν.  
30 Ἐπὶ δὲ τῶν σχημάτων ὧδε ἀποδώσει ζητοῦσι  
τὴν παρακολούθησιν τοῦ αἰτίου καὶ οὐ αἷτιον. ἔστω

<sup>a</sup> *E.g.*, in a proposition relating to bony structure the middle term, though the same by analogy, is in fact different for animal, fish and cuttle-fish (*cf.* 98 a 22).

<sup>b</sup> That is, with all rectilinear figures; *cf.* 85 b 38 ff.

<sup>c</sup> *Cf.* ch. viii, and 94 a 20 ff.

<sup>d</sup> As necessary for the proof of their propositions.

<sup>e</sup> The two botanical syllogisms of ch. xvi are here combined in a sorites, *viz.*,

All plants whose sap is coagulated are deciduous,

All broad-leaved plants are subject to coagulation of sap  
(∴ All broad-leaved plants are deciduous),

All vines, figs, etc., are broad-leaved,

∴ All vines, figs, etc., are deciduous.

There are two middles, of which "the first," next to the major,



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of them is one and the same, or something of that sort. (c) Things which are the same by analogy will have a middle term which is analogous.<sup>a</sup>

The proper view of the reciprocation of cause, effect and subject is as follows. If the species are taken separately, the effect has a wider extension than the subject—*e.g.*, “having the sum of the exterior angles equal to four right angles” has a wider extension than has triangularity or squareness—but if they are taken all together, it is coextensive with them, *viz.*, with all figures that have the sum of their exterior angles equal to four right angles<sup>b</sup>; and similarly with the middle. The middle is the definition of the major term<sup>c</sup>; this is the reason why all sciences are based upon definitions.<sup>d</sup> *E.g.*, deciduousness is a universal attribute of the vine or fig, and also has a wider extension than either; but it is not wider than, but equal to, the sum of all the species. Thus if you take the first<sup>e</sup> middle term, you have a definition of “deciduous.” (I say “the first”) because there is (another) middle term which is first in the direction of the subjects, which it describes as all having a certain characteristic; and this in turn has a middle “because the sap is coagulated,” or something to that effect. What is deciduousness? Coagulation of the sap at the junction of the leaf-stalk.

If it is required to exhibit the correspondence of cause and effect schematically, it will run like

The same expressed schematically.

defines it; the other, “first in the direction of the subject,” is merely a sub-genus of deciduous species.

99 a

τὸ Α τῷ Β ὑπάρχειν παντί, τὸ δὲ Β ἐκάστῳ τῶν Δ,  
ἐπὶ πλεόν<sup>1</sup> δέ. τὸ μὲν δὴ Β καθόλου ἂν εἴη τοῖς Δ·  
τοῦτο γὰρ λέγω καθόλου ᾧ<sup>2</sup> μὴ ἀντιστρέφει, πρῶ-  
35 τον δὲ καθόλου ᾧ ἕκαστον μὲν μὴ ἀντιστρέφει,  
ἅπαντα δὲ ἀντιστρέφει καὶ παρεκτείνει. τοῖς δὴ  
Δ αἴτιον τοῦ Α τὸ Β. δεῖ ἄρα τὸ Α ἐπὶ πλεόν τοῦ Β  
ἐπεκτείνειν<sup>3</sup>. εἰ δὲ μή, τί μᾶλλον αἴτιον ἔσται τοῦτο  
ἐκείνου; εἰ δὴ πᾶσιν ὑπάρχει τοῖς Ε τὸ Α, ἔσται  
τι ἐκεῖνα ἐν ἅπαντα ἄλλο τοῦ Β. εἰ γὰρ μή, πῶς

99 b

ἔσται εἰπεῖν ὅτι ᾧ τὸ Ε τὸ Α παντί, ᾧ δὲ τὸ Α οὐ  
παντὶ τὸ Ε; διὰ τί γὰρ οὐκ ἔσται τι αἴτιον οἶον  
[τὸ Α]<sup>4</sup> ὑπάρχει πᾶσι τοῖς Δ; ἀλλ' ἄρα καὶ τὰ Ε  
ἔσται τι ἐν; ἐπισκέψασθαι δεῖ τοῦτο, καὶ ἔστω τὸ  
Γ. ἐνδέχεται δὴ τοῦ αὐτοῦ πλείω αἴτια εἶναι, ἀλλ'  
5 οὐ τοῖς αὐτοῖς τῷ εἶδει, οἶον τοῦ μακρόβια εἶναι τὰ  
μὲν τετράποδα τὸ μὴ ἔχειν χολήν, τὰ δὲ πτηνὰ τὸ  
ξηρὰ εἶναι ἢ ἕτερόν τι.

<sup>1</sup> πλεῖον ABd, comm.

<sup>2</sup> ᾧ B<sup>1</sup>, Eustratius: ὁ.

<sup>3</sup> ἐπεκτείνειν Ross: παρεκτείνειν.

<sup>4</sup> τὸ Α secl. Ross: τοῦ τὸ Α ὑπάρχειν coni. Mure: τοῦ Α ὑπάρχει vel τὸ Β ὑπάρχει coni. Hayduck.

<sup>a</sup> The exposition which follows is at best elliptical, and the phrasing is unusual; it seems likely to be a supplement by another hand. If we try to fit the scheme to the preceding example we get:

All broad-leaved plants (B) are deciduous (A),  
All vines, figs . . . etc., (D) are broad-leaved (B).

The "first" or definitory middle, "subject to coagulation," is passed over. Probably it is taken for granted; indeed the remarkable inference "Therefore A must have a wider extension than B" implies that B is not definitory (for if it were, B would be co-extensive with A); but the omission is

this.<sup>a</sup> Assume that A applies to all B, and B to each of the species of D, but with a wider extension. Then B will be a universal attribute of the Ds ; for I call an attribute universal<sup>b</sup> even if the premiss is not convertible, although I call it universal in the primary sense only if, whereas each species separately is not convertible with it, the sum of the species is convertible and co-extensive with it. Thus B is the cause of A's applying to the Ds. Therefore A must have a wider extension than B ; otherwise A might just as well be the cause of B.<sup>c</sup> If now A applies to all the species of E, they will constitute a single whole distinct from B ; otherwise how can it be said that A applies to all that to which E applies, but not *vice versa* ? Surely there must be some cause (of A's applying to the Es), just as there is for all the Ds. So it seems that the Es too will constitute a single whole. We must consider what this is ; let it be represented by C. Thus it is possible for the same effect to have more than one cause, but not when the subjects are identical in species. *E.g.*, in quadrupeds the cause of longevity is not having a gall-bladder,<sup>d</sup> but in birds it is dryness of constitution, or some other distinct characteristic.

hard to condone. The point, however, of " inferring " that A is wider than B is to allow A to be true also of certain other species, E<sup>1</sup>, E<sup>2</sup> . . . E<sup>n</sup>, to which it is mediated through a different sub-genus, C. Then as B is the cause of the Ds' being A, so is C the cause of the Es' being A : *i.e.*, the same effect is produced by different causes in different subjects.

<sup>b</sup> Cf. 73 b 26 ff.

<sup>c</sup> See note on a 30. In any case the ambiguity is purely formal ; in any concrete example the cause could easily be identified.

<sup>d</sup> A traditional view approved by Aristotle ; cf. *Part. An.* 677 a 30.

Εἰ δὲ εἰς τὸ ἄτομον μὴ εὐθύς ἔρχονται, καὶ μὴ μόνον ἐν τὸ μέσον ἀλλὰ πλείω, καὶ τὰ αἷτια πλείω.

XVIII. πότερον δ' αἷτιον τῶν μέσων τὸ πρὸς τὸ καθόλου πρῶτον ἢ τὸ πρὸς τὸ καθ' ἕκαστον τοῖς καθ' ἕκαστον; δῆλον δὴ ὅτι τὸ<sup>1</sup> ἐγγύτατα ἐκάστω ᾧ αἷτιον. τοῦ γὰρ τὸ πρῶτον ὑπὸ τὸ καθόλου ὑπάρχειν τοῦτο αἷτιον, οἶον τῷ Δ τὸ Γ τοῦ τὸ Β ὑπάρχειν αἷτιον. τῷ μὲν οὖν Δ τὸ Γ αἷτιον τοῦ Α, τῷ δὲ Γ τὸ Β, τούτῳ δὲ αὐτό.

XIX. Περὶ μὲν οὖν συλλογισμοῦ καὶ ἀποδείξεως, τί τε ἐκότερόν ἐστι καὶ πῶς γίγνεται, φανερόν, ἅμα δὲ καὶ περὶ ἐπιστήμης ἀποδεικτικῆς· ταῦτόν γάρ ἐστιν. περὶ δὲ τῶν ἀρχῶν, πῶς τε γίνονται γνῶριμοι καὶ τίς ἡ γνωρίζουσα ἐξίς, ἐντεῦθεν ἔσται<sup>2</sup> δῆλον προαπορήσασι πρῶτον.

20 "Ὅτι μὲν οὖν οὐκ ἐνδέχεται ἐπίστασθαι δι' ἀποδείξεως μὴ γιγνώσκοντι τὰς πρώτας ἀρχὰς τὰς ἀμέσους, εἴρηται πρότερον. τῶν δ' ἀμέσων τὴν γνῶσιν, καὶ πότερον ἢ αὐτὴ ἐστὶν ἢ οὐχ ἢ αὐτὴ, διαπορήσειεν ἂν τις, καὶ πότερον ἐπιστήμη ἐκατέρου [ἢ οὐ],<sup>3</sup> ἢ τοῦ μὲν ἐπιστήμη τοῦ δ' ἕτερόν τι

<sup>1</sup> τὸ Α<sup>2</sup>n : τὰ Bd, comm. : om. A.

<sup>2</sup> ἔσται] ἐστι ABd.

<sup>3</sup> ἢ οὐ secl. Ross.

<sup>a</sup> Assuming a series of four terms from D (minor) to A (major), C and B being consecutive middles.

<sup>b</sup> i.e., the immediate premisses upon which all demonstration depends, described in 72 a 14 ff. These include both the axioms or general principles of reasoning (whether common to all categories or proper to a particular category) and the special principles of single sciences, viz., definitions and assumptions. (Cf. 76 a 31—77 a 4, and see Heath, *Mathematics in Aristotle*, pp. 50-55.) What Aristotle goes on to describe is the formation of universal concepts rather than



If we do not come directly to immediate propositions, *i.e.*, if there is not merely one but more than one middle term, there will be also more than one cause. XVIII. Is the cause of the several species' possessing a given property the middle which is next to the universal, or the middle which is next to the species? Clearly it is that which is nearest to the particular species which is its subject, because this middle is the cause of the proximate subject's falling under the universal. *E.g.*,<sup>a</sup> C is the cause of D's being B; then C is the cause of D's being A, and B is the cause of being A for both C and itself.

If there is more than one middle term, there will be more than one cause.

XIX. We have now explained the nature of syllogism and demonstration—and also of demonstrative science, which is the same as demonstration—and how they are effected. We must next inquire how we obtain knowledge of first principles,<sup>b</sup> and what is the faculty<sup>c</sup> that secures this knowledge. The answer will be clear if we first examine some preliminary difficulties.

How do we apprehend first principles?

We have observed above<sup>d</sup> that it is impossible to reach scientific knowledge through demonstration unless one apprehends the immediate first principles. With regard to the apprehension of immediates the questions may be asked: (1) whether it is or is not the same (as apprehension of mediated premisses); (2) whether there is scientific knowledge of both, or only of the latter, the former being cognized by a

Three questions to be faced.

the grasping of universal propositions, and it is not until 100 b 3 that he (rather casually) indicates that the processes are parallel.

<sup>c</sup> *ἐξῆς* is a developed faculty, as contrasted with a *δύναμις*, which is undeveloped; but it has not seemed necessary always to mark the distinction in English.

<sup>d</sup> Book I, ch. i.

99 b

25 γένος, καὶ πότερον οὐκ ἐνοῦσαι αἱ ἕξεις ἐγγίγνονται ἢ ἐνοῦσαι λελήθασιν.

Εἰ μὲν δὴ ἔχομεν αὐτάς, ἄτοπον· συμβαίνει γὰρ ἀκριβεστέρας ἔχοντας γνώσεις ἀποδείξεως λανθάνειν. εἰ δὲ λαμβάνομεν μὴ ἔχοντες πρότερον, πῶς ἂν γνωρίζοιμεν καὶ μαθάνοιμεν ἐκ μὴ προϋπαρ-  
 30 χούσης γνώσεως; ἀδύνατον γάρ, ὥσπερ καὶ ἐπὶ τῆς ἀποδείξεως ἐλέγομεν. φανερόν τοίνυν ὅτι οὗτ' ἔχειν οἷόν τε οὗτ' ἀγνοοῦσι καὶ μηδεμίαν ἔχουσιν ἕξιν ἐγγίγνεσθαι. ἀνάγκη ἄρα ἔχειν μὲν τινα δύναμιν, μὴ τοιαύτην δ' ἔχειν ἢ ἔσται τούτων τιμιωτέρα κατ' ἀκρίβειαν. φαίνεται δὲ τοῦτό γε πᾶσιν  
 35 ὑπάρχον τοῖς ζώοις. ἔχει γὰρ δύναμιν σύμφυτον κριτικὴν, ἣν καλοῦσιν αἰσθησίν· ἐνούσης δ' αἰσθήσεως τοῖς μὲν τῶν ζῶων ἐγγίγνεται μονὴ τοῦ αἰσθήματος, τοῖς δ' οὐκ ἐγγίγνεται. ὅσοις μὲν οὖν μὴ ἐγγίγνεται, ἢ ὅλως ἢ περὶ ἃ μὴ ἐγγίγνεται, οὐκ ἔστι τούτοις γνώσεις ἕξω τοῦ αἰσθάνεσθαι· ἐν οἷς δ'  
 100 a ἔνεστιν αἰσθομένοις<sup>1</sup> ἔχειν ἔτι ἐν τῇ ψυχῇ. πολλῶν δὲ τοιούτων γιγνομένων ἤδη διαφορά τις γίγνεται, ὥστε τοῖς μὲν γίγνεσθαι λόγον ἐκ τῆς τῶν τοιούτων μονῆς, τοῖς δὲ μή.

Ἐκ μὲν οὖν αἰσθήσεως γίγνεται μνήμη, ὥσπερ λέγομεν, ἐκ δὲ μνήμης πολλάκις τοῦ αὐτοῦ γιγνο-

<sup>1</sup> αἰσθομένοις ci. Ueberweg, scripsit Ross: αἰσθανομένοις codd.

<sup>a</sup> These two questions are answered at the end of the chapter, 100 b 5-17.

<sup>b</sup> 71 a 1 ff.

<sup>c</sup> i.e., demonstration and scientific knowledge.

different kind of knowledge <sup>a</sup>; and (3) whether we develop cognitive faculties which we did not possess before, or have always possessed these faculties without knowing it.

It seems paradoxical that we should have possessed them always, because then it follows that we possess, without knowing it, powers of apprehension which are more accurate than demonstration. If on the other hand we acquire them, not having possessed them before, how can we gain knowledge and learn without some pre-existent power of apprehension? It is an impossibility, just as we said <sup>b</sup> in the case of demonstration. Thus it is evident both that we cannot always have possessed them and that we cannot acquire them if we are completely ignorant and have no positive capacity. We must, then, have some faculty, but not such as to be superior in accuracy to those mentioned above.<sup>c</sup> Clearly this is a property of all animals. They have an innate faculty of discrimination, which we call sense-perception. All animals have it, but in some the perception persists, while in others it does not.<sup>d</sup> Where it does not, there is either no cognition at all outside the act of perception, or no cognition of those objects of which the perception does not persist. Where perception does persist, after the act of perception is over the percipients can still retain the perception in the soul. If this happens repeatedly, a distinction immediately arises between those animals which derive a coherent impression from the persistence and those which do not.

There must be a faculty which, starting as sense-perception,

in rational beings develops,

Thus sense-perception gives rise to memory, as we hold; and repeated memories of the same thing give through memory

<sup>a</sup> Cf. *Met.* 980 b 21 ff.

100 a

5 μένης ἐμπειρία· αἱ γὰρ πολλαὶ μνημαὶ τῷ ἀριθμῷ ἐμπειρία μία ἐστίν. ἐκ δ' ἐμπειρίας ἢ ἐκ παντός ἡρεμήσαντος τοῦ καθόλου ἐν τῇ ψυχῇ, τοῦ ἐνὸς παρὰ τὰ πολλὰ, ὃ ἂν ἐν ἅπασιν ἐν ἐνῇ ἐκείνοις τὸ αὐτό, τέχνης ἀρχὴ καὶ ἐπιστήμης, εἴαν μὲν περὶ γένεσιν, τέχνης, εἴαν δὲ περὶ τὸ ὄν, ἐπιστήμης.

10 οὔτε δὴ ἐνυπάρχουσιν ἀφωρισμένα αἱ ἕξεις, οὔτ' ἀπ' ἄλλων ἕξεων γίνονται γνωστικωτέρων, ἀλλ' ἀπὸ αἰσθήσεως, οἷον ἐν μάχῃ τροπῆς γενομένης ἐνὸς στάντος ἕτερος ἔσται, εἴθ' ἕτερος, ἕως ἐπὶ ἀρχὴν ἦλθεν. ἢ δὲ ψυχὴ ὑπάρχει τοιαύτη οὔσα οἷα δύνασθαι πάσχειν τοῦτο. ὃ δ' ἐλέχθη μὲν πάλαι,

15 οὐ σαφῶς δὲ ἐλέχθη, πάλιν εἵπωμεν. στάντος γὰρ τῶν ἀδιαφόρων ἐνός, πρῶτον μὲν ἐν τῇ ψυχῇ καθόλου (καὶ γὰρ αἰσθάνεται μὲν τὸ καθ' ἑκάστον, ἢ δ'

100 b αἰσθησις τοῦ καθόλου ἐστίν, οἷον ἀνθρώπου, ἀλλ' οὐ Καλλίου ἀνθρώπου)· πάλιν ἐν τούτοις ἴσταται, ἕως ἂν τὰ ἀμερῇ στῇ καὶ τὰ καθόλου, οἷον τοιονδὶ

<sup>a</sup> Or, more exactly, "come to rest." (Ross rightly detects a reminiscence of Plato, *Phaedo* 96 b; note especially ἐκ δὲ μνήμης καὶ δόξης λαβούσης τὸ ἡρεμεῖν, κατὰ ταῦτα γίνεσθαι ἐπιστήμην. Whatever the truth about ἐπίσταμαι and ἐφίσταμαι, Plato and Aristotle clearly connected the two; cf. *Physics* 247 b 11 τῷ γὰρ ἡρεμήσαι καὶ στῆναι τὴν διάνοιαν ἐπίστασθαι . . . λέγομεθα.) The stream of transient particular sensations is contrasted with the fixed general impression which they produce in a suitable subject.

<sup>b</sup> The point of the comparison is to suggest how a succession of unitary sensations can combine to form a permanent whole. There is also an implication of order emerging from disorder; but this is to be found in the general sense, not in the phrase ἕως ἐπὶ ἀρχὴν ἦλθεν, which simply means "until it reaches the starting-point," i.e. until the rally has extended to the man who first gave way. Perhaps a kind of pun is intended, since Aristotle is considering the approach to the πρῶται ἀρχαί.



rise to experience ; because the memories, though numerically many, constitute a single experience. And experience, that is the universal when established <sup>a</sup> as a whole in the soul—the One that corresponds to the Many, the unity that is identically present in them all—provides the starting-point of art and science : art in the world of process and science in the world of facts. Thus these faculties are neither innate as determinate and fully developed, nor derived from other developed faculties on a higher plane of knowledge ; they arise from sense-perception, just as, when a retreat has occurred in battle, if one man halts so does another, and then another, until the original position is restored.<sup>b</sup> The soul is so constituted that it is capable of the same sort of process. Let us re-state what we said just now <sup>c</sup> with insufficient precision. As soon as one individual <sup>d</sup> percept has “ come to a halt ” in the soul, this is the first beginning of the presence there of a universal (because although it is the particular that we perceive, the act of perception involves the universal, *e.g.*, “ man,” not “ a man, Callias ”). Then other “ halts ” occur among these <proximate> universals, until the indivisible genera <sup>e</sup> or <ultimate> universals are established. *E.g.*, a particular species

and experience, the power of generalizing.

<sup>a</sup> 100 a 3-9.

<sup>a</sup> I do not see how τὰ ἀδιάφορα can mean *infimae species* here. If Aristotle's illustration means anything, it is that the process begins with the perception of individuals, although the species is perceived in the individual. Since Aristotle appears to equate τὰ καθ' ἑκάστα with τὰ ἀδιάφορα in 97 b 29-31, it seems just possible that he is doing the converse here. Otherwise he would seem to be skipping an important stage in his description.

<sup>e</sup> The categories, which do not admit of analysis into genus and differentia. *Cf. Met.* 1014 b 6 ff.

100 b

ζῶον, ἕως ζῶον· καὶ ἐν τούτῳ ὡσαύτως. δῆλον δὴ ὅτι ἡμῖν τὰ πρῶτα ἐπαγωγῇ γνωρίζειν ἀναγκαῖον· καὶ γὰρ ἡ<sup>1</sup> αἴσθησις οὕτω τὸ καθόλου ἐμποιεῖ.

- 5 Ἐπεὶ δὲ τῶν περὶ τὴν διάνοιαν ἔξεων αἷς ἀληθεύομεν αἱ μὲν αἰεὶ ἀληθεῖς εἰσιν, αἱ δὲ ἐπιδέχονται τὸ ψεῦδος, οἷον δόξα καὶ λογισμός, ἀληθὴ δ' αἰεὶ ἐπιστήμη καὶ νοῦς, καὶ οὐδὲν ἐπιστήμης ἀκριβέστερον ἄλλο γένος ἢ νοῦς, αἱ δ' ἀρχαὶ τῶν ἀποδείξεων
- 10 γνωριμώτεραι, ἐπιστήμη δ' ἀπάσα μετὰ λόγου ἐστὶ, τῶν ἀρχῶν ἐπιστήμη μὲν οὐκ ἂν εἴη, ἐπεὶ δ' οὐδὲν ἀληθέστερον ἐνδέχεται εἶναι ἐπιστήμης ἢ νοῦν, νοῦς ἂν εἴη τῶν ἀρχῶν, ἔκ τε τούτων σκοποῦσι καὶ ὅτι ἀποδείξεως ἀρχὴ οὐκ ἀπόδειξις, ὥστ' οὐδ' ἐπιστήμης ἐπιστήμη. εἰ οὖν μηδὲν ἄλλο παρὰ ἐπιστήμην
- 15 γένος ἔχομεν ἀληθές, νοῦς ἂν εἴη ἐπιστήμης ἀρχή. καὶ ἡ μὲν ἀρχὴ τῆς ἀρχῆς εἴη ἂν, ἡ δὲ πᾶσα ὁμοίως ἔχει πρὸς τὸ πᾶν<sup>2</sup> πρᾶγμα.

<sup>1</sup> ἡ n, Eustratius : καὶ ABd.

<sup>2</sup> πᾶν n : ἅπαν AB : om. d.

of animal leads to the genus "animal," and so on. Clearly then it must be by induction that we acquire knowledge of the primary premisses, because this is also the way in which general concepts are conveyed to us by sense-perception.

Now of the intellectual faculties that we use in the pursuit of truth some (*e.g.*, scientific knowledge and intuition) are always true, whereas others (*e.g.*, opinion and calculation) admit falsity ; and no other kind of knowledge except intuition is more accurate than scientific knowledge. Also first principles are more knowable than demonstrations, and all scientific knowledge involves reason. It follows that there can be no scientific knowledge of the first principles ; and since nothing can be more infallible than scientific knowledge except intuition, it must be intuition that apprehends the first principles. This is evident not only from the foregoing considerations but also because the starting-point of demonstration is not itself demonstration, and so the starting-point of scientific knowledge is not itself scientific knowledge. Therefore, since we possess no other infallible faculty besides scientific knowledge, the source from which such knowledge starts must be intuition. Thus it will be the primary source of scientific knowledge that apprehends the first principles, while scientific knowledge as a whole is similarly related to the whole world of facts.

Thus the method by which we apprehend first principles is induction, and the faculty must be intuition.





THE HISTORY OF THE

TOPICA

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## INTRODUCTION

### I. THE PLACE OF THE *TOPICA* IN THE *ORGANON*

BOTH the *Topica* and the *de Sophisticis Elenchis* have always been regarded as genuine works of Aristotle. The two treatises are closely connected; the *de Sophisticis Elenchis* is an appendix to the *Topica* and its final section forms an epilogue to both treatises; indeed Aristotle himself seems sometimes to regard the two as forming a single work, since he twice quotes the *de Sophisticis Elenchis* under the title of the *Topica*.

It is generally admitted that what we call logic and Aristotle himself calls analytic was an early pre-occupation of the philosopher and a direct outcome of discussions on scientific method held in the Platonic Academy. Plato himself, however, never attempted a formal treatment of the subject and the theories put forward, for example, in the *Theaetetus*, *Sophist*, *Parmenides* and *Politicus* were never developed into a regular system. But while Aristotle's systematic treatment of the process of inference and, above all, his discovery of the syllogism owe little to Plato, it has been generally recognized that the Platonic dialogues contain some of the germs from which the Aristotelian system was afterwards developed; for

## ARISTOTLE

example, in the *Theaetetus* the doctrine of the categories is already implicit in the recognition of the abstract notions of substance, quality, quantity, relation, activity and passivity.

Of the logical treatises of Aristotle, which since about A.D. 200 have passed under the title of the *Organon* or 'instrument' of science, the most important are (1) the *Prior Analytics*, in which he sets forth the doctrine of the syllogism in its formal aspect without reference to the subject-matter with which it deals, (2) the *Posterior Analytics*, in which he discusses the characteristics which reasoning must necessarily possess in order to be truly scientific, (3) the *Topica*, in which he treats of the modes of reasoning, which, while syllogistically correct, fall short of the conditions of scientific accuracy. The *Categories* and the *de Interpretatione* are subsidiary treatises dealing, in the main, with the term and the proposition.

A great deal of time and ingenuity has been expended, particularly by German scholars, in an attempt to fix the exact order in which the various treatises which constitute the *Organon* were composed. The problem is complicated by the fact that the treatises, in the form in which they have come down to us, seem to consist of rough notes, which were evidently subjected to a certain amount of revision due to the modification and development of his original doctrines. This process has naturally given rise to minor inconsistencies such as would naturally occur if corrections were made or additions inserted which were not completely adapted to the context in which they were placed.

It has been generally recognized that the whole



## TOPICA

of the *Topica* does not belong to the same date. H. Maier<sup>a</sup> holds that the oldest portion consists of Books II-VII. 2 and that it was written under the direct influence of the Academy and belongs to the same period as the Aristotelian *Dialogues*, which have survived only in fragments ; in particular, he points out that the term συλλογισμός is not used in the technical sense which it afterwards acquired (or, if it is used in that sense, *e.g.*, in 130 a 7, it is a late insertion), whereas in the second half of Book VII the term is used in its well-known Aristotelian sense, and that, consequently, Books II-VII. 2 were composed before the philosopher made his greatest contribution to logic. He holds that Books I and VIII belong to the same period as Book VII. 4-5, and form an introduction and conclusion to the treatise written after the discovery of the syllogism, and that the *de Sophisticis Elenchis* was a subsequent addition to the *Topica*. On the other hand, F. Solmsen<sup>a</sup> and P. Gohlke<sup>a</sup> hold that Books I-VII form the earlier portion of the work and that Book VIII and the *de Sophisticis Elenchis* were added subsequently.

As regards the relation of the *Topica* to the rest of the *Organon*, Maier considers the *Topica* as a whole to be earlier than the *Analytics* ; Solmsen suggests that the order was (1) *Topica* I-VII, (2) *Posterior Analytics* I, (3) *Topica* VIII and *de Sophisticis Elenchis*, (4) *Posterior Analytics* II, (5) *Prior Analytics* ; Gohlke holds that the traditional order of the two *Analytics* is correct, and that the *Topica* and *de Sophisticis Elenchis* presuppose the *Analytics*.

In short, there is general agreement that the bulk of the *Topica* embodies Aristotle's earliest contribu-

<sup>a</sup> See Bibliography.

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tion to the systematic study of logic and that it was written in part before his discovery of the syllogism.

### II. THE CONTENT OF THE *TOPICA*

The purpose of the *Topica* is, in the words of its author (100 a 18 ff.), "to discover a method by which we shall be able to reason from generally accepted opinions about any problem set before us and shall ourselves, when sustaining an argument, avoid saying anything self-contradictory"; that is to say, it aims at enabling the two participants, the 'questioner' and the 'answerer,' to sustain their parts in a dialectical discussion. The subject, then, of the treatise may be described as the dialectical syllogism based on premises which are merely probable as contrasted with the demonstrative, or scientific, syllogism, which is the subject of the *Posterior Analytics* and is based on premises which are true and immediate. The probable premises which make up the dialectical syllogism are described (100 b 21 f.) as "those which commend themselves to all or to the majority or to the wise." The uses of dialectic are, we are told, three in number, (1) for mental training, (2) for general conversation, and (3) for application to the sciences, because (a) if we can argue a question *pro* and *con*, we shall be in a better position to recognize truth and falsehood, and (b) since the first principles of the sciences cannot be scientifically demonstrated, the approach to them must be through the study of the opinions generally held about them.

After the general introduction in Book I, Aristotle, in Books II-VII. 3, gives a collection of the *τόποι* which give their name to the treatise. The term *τόποι* is

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somewhat difficult to define. They may be described as 'commonplaces' of argument or as general principles of probability which stand in the same relation to the dialectical syllogism as axioms stand to the demonstrative syllogism; in other words, they are "the pigeon-holes from which dialectical reasoning is to draw its arguments."<sup>a</sup>

Books II and III deal with the problems of accident; Books IV and V with those of genus and property; Books VI and VII. 1-3 with those of definition. Books VII. 4-5, and Book VIII, after giving some additional notes, conclude the treatise by describing the practice of dialectical reasoning.

### III. THE MANUSCRIPTS

The chief manuscripts for the *Topica* are :

A	Urbinas 35	saec. ix-x ineunt.
B	Marcianus 201	an. 955
C	Coislinianus 330	saec. xi
D	Parisinus 1843	saec. xiii
u	Basileensis 54 (F ii. 21)	saec. xii
c	Vaticanus 1024	saec. x-xi
P	Vaticanus 207	saec. xiii
f	Marcianus App. iv. 5	saec. xiv
q	Ambrosianus M. 71	saec. xv
N	Laurentianus 72. 18	saec. xv
i	Laurentianus 72. 15	saec. xiv
T	Laurentianus 72. 12	saec. xiii
O	Marcianus 204	saec. xiv

Of these A and B are in a class by themselves. Bekker preferred A, Waitz B; the Teubner Editors

<sup>a</sup> W. D. Ross, *Aristotle*, p. 59.

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give a slight preference to B, the readings of which are sometimes supported by papyrus fragments. C sometimes preserves the true reading.

### IV. SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

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J. L. Stocks, "The Composition of Aristotle's Logical Works," *Classical Quarterly*, 1933, pp. 115-124.

IN translating the *Topica* I have used the text of Bekker in the Berlin Edition, and when I translate any other reading this is noted at the foot of the page. I have constantly referred to the Teubner text of Strache-Wallies, which does not, however, seem to me to mark any considerable advance on that of Bekker. I have found Waitz's edition of the *Organon* of great use, and the Latin version of Pacius is often helpful. I have frequently consulted the Oxford translation by W. A. Pickard-Cambridge.

I have to thank my friend and former colleague Professor W. S. Maguinness, of King's College, London, for reading through my version and giving me the benefit of his fine scholarship and accuracy. He has suggested several improvements in the text which I have been glad to adopt.

E. S. F.

[This Introduction is, with some modifications, Professor Forster's. After his death, his edition of the *Topica* was seen through the press by D. J. Furley, who also compiled the Index.]

## ΤΟΠΙΚΩΝ

### Α

- 100 a 18 I. Ἡ μὲν πρόθεσις τῆς πραγματείας μέθοδον  
εὔρεϊν, ἀφ' ἧς δυνησόμεθα συλλογίζεσθαι περὶ παν-  
20 τὸς τοῦ προτεθέντος προβλήματος ἐξ ἐνδόξων, καὶ  
αὐτοὶ λόγον ὑπέχοντες μηθὲν ἐροῦμεν ὑπεναντίον.  
πρῶτον οὖν ῥητέον τί ἐστι συλλογισμὸς καὶ τίνες  
αὐτοῦ διαφοραί, ὅπως ληφθῇ ὁ διαλεκτικὸς συλ-  
λογισμὸς. τοῦτον γὰρ ζητοῦμεν κατὰ τὴν προκει-  
μένην πραγματείαν.
- 25 Ἔστι δὴ συλλογισμὸς λόγος ἐν ᾧ τεθέντων τινῶν  
ἕτερόν τι τῶν κειμένων ἐξ ἀνάγκης συμβαίνει διὰ  
τῶν κειμένων. ἀπόδειξις μὲν οὖν ἐστίν, ὅταν ἐξ  
ἀληθῶν καὶ πρώτων ὁ συλλογισμὸς ᾗ, ἢ ἐκ τοιού-  
των ᾧ διὰ τινων πρώτων καὶ ἀληθῶν τῆς περὶ αὐτὰ  
30 γνώσεως τὴν ἀρχὴν εἴληφεν· διαλεκτικὸς δὲ συλ-  
100 b 18 λογισμὸς ὁ ἐξ ἐνδόξων συλλογιζόμενος. ἔστι δὲ  
ἀληθὴ μὲν καὶ πρῶτα τὰ μὴ δι' ἐτέρων ἀλλὰ δι'  
αὐτῶν ἔχοντα τὴν πίστιν· οὐ δεῖ γὰρ ἐν ταῖς  
20 ἐπιστημονικαῖς ἀρχαῖς ἐπιζητεῖσθαι τὸ διὰ τί,  
ἀλλ' ἐκάστην τῶν ἀρχῶν αὐτὴν καθ' ἑαυτὴν εἶναι  
πιστήν. ἔνδοξα δὲ τὰ δοκοῦντα πᾶσιν ἢ τοῖς πλεί-  
272

# TOPICA

## BOOK I

I. THE purpose of the present treatise is to discover a method by which we shall be able to reason from generally accepted opinions about any problem set before us and shall ourselves, when sustaining an argument, avoid saying anything self-contradictory. First, then, we must say what reasoning is and what different kinds of it there are, in order that dialectical reasoning may be apprehended; for it is the search for this that we are undertaking in the treatise which lies before us.

INTRODUCTION  
(I. 1-3).  
The design  
of the  
treatise.

Reasoning is a discussion in which, certain things having been laid down, something other than these things necessarily results through them. Reasoning is *demonstration* when it proceeds from premises which are true and primary or of such a kind that we have derived our original knowledge of them through premises which are primary and true. Reasoning is *dialectical* which reasons from generally accepted opinions. Things are true and primary which command belief through themselves and not through anything else; for regarding the first principles of science it is unnecessary to ask any further question as to 'why,' but each principle should of itself command belief. Generally accepted opinions, on the other hand, are those which commend themselves

The different  
kinds  
of reason-  
ing:

(a) De-  
monstra-  
tive.

(b) Dia-  
lectical.

100 b

- στοις ἢ τοῖς σοφοῖς, καὶ τούτοις ἢ πᾶσιν ἢ τοῖς  
 πλείστοις ἢ τοῖς μάλιστα γνωρίμοις καὶ ἐνδόξοις.  
 ἐριστικὸς δ' ἐστὶ συλλογισμὸς ὁ ἐκ φαινομένων  
 25 ἐνδόξων, μὴ ὄντων δέ, καὶ ὁ ἐξ ἐνδόξων ἢ φαι-  
 νομένων ἐνδόξων φαινόμενος. οὐ γὰρ πᾶν τὸ  
 φαινόμενον ἐνδοξον καὶ ἔστιν ἐνδοξον. οὐθὲν γὰρ  
 τῶν λεγομένων ἐνδόξων ἐπιπόλαιον ἔχει παντελῶς  
 τὴν φαντασίαν, καθὰ περὶ τὰς τῶν ἐριστικῶν λόγων  
 ἀρχὰς συμβέβηκεν ἔχειν· παραχρῆμα γὰρ καὶ ὥς  
 30 ἐπὶ τὸ πολὺ τοῖς καὶ μικρὰ συνορᾶν δυναμένοις  
 101 a κατὰδηλος ἐν αὐτοῖς ἢ τοῦ ψεύδους ἐστὶ φύσις. ὁ  
 μὲν οὖν πρότερος τῶν ῥηθέντων ἐριστικῶν συλ-  
 λογισμῶν καὶ συλλογισμὸς λεγέσθω, ὁ δὲ λοιπὸς  
 ἐριστικὸς μὲν συλλογισμὸς, συλλογισμὸς δ' οὐ,  
 ἐπειδὴ φαίνεται μὲν συλλογίζεσθαι, συλλογίζεται  
 δ' οὐ.  
 5 Ἔτι δὲ παρὰ τοὺς εἰρημένους ἅπαντας συλλογι-  
 σμοὺς οἱ ἐκ τῶν περὶ τινὰς ἐπιστήμας οἰκείων γινό-  
 μενοι παραλογισμοί, καθάπερ ἐπὶ τῆς γεωμετρίας  
 καὶ τῶν ταύτῃ συγγενῶν συμβέβηκεν ἔχειν. ὅμοιος  
 γὰρ ὁ τρόπος οὗτος διαφέρει τῶν εἰρημένων συλ-  
 10 λογισμῶν· οὔτε γὰρ ἐξ ἀληθῶν καὶ πρώτων συλλο-  
 γίζεται ὁ ψευδογραφῶν, οὔτ' ἐξ ἐνδόξων. εἰς γὰρ  
 τὸν ὅρον οὐκ ἐμπίπτει· οὔτε γὰρ τὰ πᾶσι δοκοῦντα  
 λαμβάνει οὔτε τὰ τοῖς πλείστοις οὔτε τὰ τοῖς σο-  
 15 φοῖς, καὶ τούτοις οὔτε τὰ πᾶσιν οὔτε τοῖς πλείστοις  
 οὔτε τοῖς ἐνδοξοτάτοις, ἀλλ' ἐκ τῶν οἰκείων μὲν τῇ  
 ἐπιστήμῃ λημμάτων, οὐκ ἀληθῶν δὲ τὸν συλλογι-  
 σμὸν ποιεῖται. τῷ γὰρ ἢ τὰ ἡμικύκλια περιγρά-



## TOPICA, I. 1

to all or to the majority or to the wise—that is, to all of the wise or to the majority or to the most famous and distinguished of them. Reasoning is *contentious* (c) Contentious. if it is based on opinions which appear to be generally accepted but are not really so, or if it merely appears to be based on opinions which are, or appear to be, generally accepted. For not every opinion which appears to be generally accepted is actually so accepted. For in none of the so-called generally accepted opinions is the illusory appearance entirely manifest, as happens in the case of the principles of contentious arguments; for usually the nature of untruth in these is immediately obvious to those who have even a small power of comprehension. Therefore, of the above-mentioned contentious reasonings the former should actually be called reasoning, but the other should be called, not reasoning, but contentious reasoning, because it appears to reason but does not really do so.

Furthermore, besides all the above-mentioned reasonings, there are false reasonings based on premises peculiar to certain sciences, as happens in geometry and the sciences kindred to it. For this kind seems to differ from the reasonings already mentioned; for the man who constructs a false figure reasons neither from true and primary premises nor from generally accepted opinions; for he does not fall within the definition, since he does not take as his premises either universally accepted opinions or those which commend themselves to the majority or to the wise—that is to all of the wise or to the majority or to the most distinguished of them,—but his process of reasoning is based on assumptions which are peculiar to the science but not true; for he reasons

False reasonings.

101 a

φειν μὴ ὥς δέϊ, ἢ γραμμάς τινὰς ἄγειν μὴ ὥς ἂν ἀχθείησαν, τὸν παραλογισμόν ποιεῖται.

Εἶδη μὲν οὖν τῶν συλλογισμῶν, ὥς τύπῳ περιλαβεῖν, ἔστω τὰ εἰρημένα. καθόλου δ' εἰπεῖν  
20 περὶ πάντων τῶν εἰρημένων καὶ τῶν μετὰ ταῦτα ῥηθησομένων, ἐπὶ τοσοῦτον ἡμῖν διωρίσθω, διότι περὶ οὐδενὸς αὐτῶν τὸν ἀκριβῆ λόγον ἀποδοῦναι προαιρούμεθα, ἀλλ' ὅσον τύπῳ περὶ αὐτῶν βουλόμεθα διελθεῖν, παντελῶς ἱκανὸν ἡγούμενοι κατὰ τὴν προκειμένην μέθοδον τὸ δύνασθαι γνωρίζειν ὅπως οὖν ἕκαστον αὐτῶν.

25 II. Ἐπόμενον δ' ἂν εἴη τοῖς εἰρημένοις εἰπεῖν πρὸς πόσα τε καὶ τίνα χρήσιμος ἢ πραγματεία. ἔστι δὴ πρὸς τρία, πρὸς γυμνασίαν, πρὸς τὰς ἐντεύξεις, πρὸς τὰς κατὰ φιλοσοφίαν ἐπιστήμας. ὅτι μὲν οὖν πρὸς γυμνασίαν χρήσιμος, ἐξ αὐτῶν  
30 καταφανές ἐστι· μέθοδον γὰρ ἔχοντες ῥᾶον περὶ τοῦ προτεθέντος ἐπιχειρεῖν δυνησόμεθα. πρὸς δὲ τὰς ἐντεύξεις, διότι τὰς τῶν πολλῶν κατηριθμημένοι δόξας οὐκ ἐκ τῶν ἀλλοτρίων ἀλλ' ἐκ τῶν οἰκείων δογμάτων ὁμιλήσομεν πρὸς αὐτοὺς, μεταβιβάζοντες ὃ τι ἂν μὴ καλῶς φαίνωνται λέγειν ἡμῖν.  
35 πρὸς δὲ τὰς κατὰ φιλοσοφίαν ἐπιστήμας, ὅτι δυνάμενοι πρὸς ἀμφοτέρω διαπορῆσαι ῥᾶον ἐν ἐκάστοις κατοψόμεθα τἀληθές τε καὶ τὸ ψεῦδος. ἔτι δὲ πρὸς τὰ πρῶτα τῶν περὶ ἐκάστην ἐπιστήμην [ἀρχῶν]<sup>1</sup>· ἐκ μὲν γὰρ τῶν οἰκείων τῶν κατὰ τὴν προτεθείσαν ἐπιστήμην ἀρχῶν ἀδύνατον εἰπεῖν τι περὶ αὐτῶν,  
101 b ἐπειδὴ πρῶται αἱ ἀρχαὶ ἀπάντων εἰσὶ, διὰ δὲ τῶν περὶ ἕκαστα ἐνδόξων ἀνάγκη περὶ αὐτῶν διελθεῖν. τοῦτο δ' ἴδιον ἢ μάλιστα οἰκεῖον τῆς διαλεκτικῆς

<sup>1</sup> Omitting ἀρχῶν with B corr. and C.

falsely either by describing the semicircles improperly or by drawing lines as they should not be drawn.

Let the above then be a description in outline of the different kinds of reasoning. In general, as regards all those already mentioned and to be mentioned hereafter, let this much distinction suffice for us, since we do not propose to give the exact definition of any of them but merely wish to describe them in outline, considering it quite enough, in accordance with the method which we have set before us, to be able to recognize each of them in some way or other.

II. After the above remarks the next point is to explain for how many and for what purposes this treatise is useful. They are three in number, mental training, conversations and the philosophic sciences. That it is useful for mental training is obvious on the face of it ; for, if we have a method, we shall be able more easily to argue about the subject proposed. It is useful for conversations, because, having enumerated the opinions of the majority, we shall be dealing with people on the basis of their own opinions, not of those of others, changing the course of any argument which they appear to us to be using wrongly. For the philosophic sciences it is useful, because, if we are able to raise difficulties on both sides, we shall more easily discern both truth and falsehood on every point. Further, it is useful in connexion with the ultimate bases of each science ; for it is impossible to discuss them at all on the basis of the principles peculiar to the science in question, since the principles are primary in relation to everything else, and it is necessary to deal with them through the generally accepted opinions on each point. This process belongs peculiarly, or most appropriately to dialectic ;

The uses  
of the  
treatise.

101 b

ἐστίν· ἐξεταστικὴ γὰρ οὖσα πρὸς τὰς ἀπασῶν τῶν μεθόδων ἀρχὰς ὁδὸν ἔχει.

5 III. Ἐξομεν δὲ τελέως τὴν μέθοδον, ὅταν ὁμοίως ἔχωμεν ὥσπερ ἐπὶ ῥητορικῆς καὶ ἱατρικῆς καὶ τῶν τοιούτων δυνάμεων. τοῦτο δ' ἐστὶ τὸ ἐκ τῶν ἐνδεχομένων ποιεῖν ἃ προαιρούμεθα. οὔτε γὰρ ὁ ῥητορικὸς ἐκ παντὸς τρόπου πείσει, οὔθ' ὁ ἱατρικὸς ὑγιάσει· ἀλλ' ἐὰν τῶν ἐνδεχομένων μηδὲν παρα-  
10 λείπη, ἱκανῶς αὐτὸν ἔχειν τὴν ἐπιστήμην φήσομεν.

IV. Πρῶτον οὖν θεωρητέον ἐκ τίνων ἡ μέθοδος. εἰ δὴ λάβοιμεν πρὸς πόσα καὶ ποῖα καὶ ἐκ τίνων οἱ λόγοι, καὶ πῶς τούτων εὐπορήσομεν, ἔχοιμεν ἂν ἱκανῶς τὸ πρόκειμενον. ἔστι δ' ἀριθμῶ ἴσα καὶ  
15 ταῦτά, ἐξ ὧν τε οἱ λόγοι καὶ περὶ ὧν οἱ συλλογισμοί. γίνονται μὲν γὰρ οἱ λόγοι ἐκ τῶν προτάσεων· περὶ ὧν δὲ οἱ συλλογισμοί, τὰ προβλήματα ἐστί. πᾶσα δὲ πρότασις καὶ πᾶν πρόβλημα ἢ γένος ἢ ἴδιον ἢ συμβεβηκὸς δηλοῖ· καὶ γὰρ τὴν διαφορὰν ὥς οὖσαν γενικὴν ὁμοῦ τῷ γένει τακτέον. ἐπεὶ δὲ  
20 τοῦ ἰδίου τὸ μὲν τὸ τί ἦν εἶναι σημαίνει, τὸ δ' οὐ σημαίνει, διηρήσθω τὸ ἴδιον εἰς ἄμφω τὰ προειρημένα μέρη, καὶ καλείσθω τὸ μὲν τὸ τί ἦν εἶναι σημαῖνον ὅρος, τὸ δὲ λοιπὸν κατὰ τὴν κοινὴν περὶ αὐτῶν ἀποδοθεῖσαν ὀνομασίαν προσαγορευέσθω ἴδιον. δηλὸν οὖν ἐκ τῶν εἰρημένων ὅτι κατὰ τὴν  
25 νῦν διαίρεσιν τέτταρα τὰ πάντα συμβαίνει γίνεσθαι,



## TOPICA, I. II-IV

for, being of the nature of an investigation, it lies along the path to the principles of all methods of inquiry.

III. We shall possess the method completely when we are in a position similar to that in which we are with regard to rhetoric and medicine and other such faculties ; that is to say, when we carry out our purpose with every available means. For neither will the rhetorician seek to persuade nor the physician to heal by every expedient ; but if he omits none of the available means, we shall say that he possesses the science in an adequate degree.

IV. We must, then, first consider on what bases our method rests ; for if we could grasp to how many and to what kind of objects our arguments are directed and on what bases they rest, and how we are to be well provided with these, we should sufficiently attain the end which is set before us. Now the bases of arguments are equal in number and identical with the subjects of reasonings. For arguments arise from 'propositions,' while the subjects of reasonings are 'problems.' Now every proposition and every problem indicates either a genus or a peculiarity or an accident ; for the differentia also, being generic in character, should be ranged with the genus. But since part of the peculiarity indicates the essence and part does not do so, let the peculiarity be divided into the two above-mentioned parts and let that which indicates the essence be called a 'definition,' and let the remaining part be termed a 'property' in accordance with the nomenclature usually assigned in these cases. It is clear therefore, from what has been said, that, as a result of the division just made, there are four alternatives in all, either property or

The limitations of the proposed method.

SUBJECTS  
AND  
MATERIALS  
OF DISCUSSION  
(I. 4-12).

Propositions and Problems.

101 b

ἢ ἴδιον ἢ ὅρον ἢ γένος ἢ συμβεβηκός. μηδεὶς δ' ἡμᾶς ὑπολάβη λέγειν ὡς ἕκαστον τούτων καθ' αὐτὸ λεγόμενον πρότασις ἢ πρόβλημά ἐστιν, ἀλλ' ὅτι ἀπὸ τούτων καὶ τὰ προβλήματα καὶ αἱ προτάσεις γίνονται. διαφέρει δὲ τὸ πρόβλημα καὶ ἡ πρότασις  
 30 τῷ τρόπῳ. οὕτω μὲν γὰρ ῥηθέντος, ἀρά γε τὸ ζῶον πεζὸν δίπουν ὁρισμός ἐστιν ἀνθρώπου; καὶ ἀρά γε τὸ ζῶον γένος ἐστὶ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου; πρότασις γίνεται. ἐὰν δέ, πότερον τὸ ζῶον πεζὸν δίπουν ὁρισμός ἐστιν ἀνθρώπου ἢ οὐ; [καὶ πότερον τὸ ζῶον γένος ἐστίν;],<sup>1</sup> πρόβλημα γίνεται. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων. ὥστ' εἰκότως ἴσα τῷ  
 35 ἀριθμῷ τὰ προβλήματα καὶ αἱ προτάσεις εἰσίν. ἀπὸ πάσης γὰρ προτάσεως πρόβλημα ποιήσεις μεταβάλλων τῷ τρόπῳ.

V. Λεκτέον δὲ τί ὅρος, τί ἴδιον, τί γένος, τί συμβεβηκός. ἔστι δ' ὅρος μὲν λόγος ὁ τὸ τί ἦν εἶναι  
 102 a σημαίνων. ἀποδίδεται δὲ ἡ λόγος ἀντ' ὀνόματος ἡ λόγος ἀντὶ λόγου· δυνατόν γὰρ καὶ τῶν ὑπὸ λόγου τινὰ σημαινομένων ὀρίσασθαι. ὅσοι δ' ὅπως οὖν ὀνόματι τὴν ἀπόδοσιν ποιοῦνται, δηλον ὡς οὐκ ἀποδιδόασιν οὗτοι τὸν τοῦ πράγματος ὁρισμόν,  
 5 ἐπειδὴ πᾶς ὁρισμὸς λόγος τίς ἐστιν. ὀρικὸν μέντοι καὶ τὸ τοιοῦτον θετέον, οἷον ὅτι καλόν ἐστι τὸ πρόπον. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ τὸ πότερον ταῦτὸν αἰσθησις καὶ ἐπιστήμη ἢ ἕτερον· καὶ γὰρ περὶ τοὺς ὁρισμούς, πότερον ταῦτὸν ἢ ἕτερον, ἡ πλείστη γίνεται διατριβή. ἀπλῶς δὲ ὀρικὰ πάντα λεγέσθω τὰ ὑπὸ τὴν  
 10 αὐτὴν ὄντα μέθοδον τοῖς ὀρισμοῖς. ὅτι δὲ πάντα

<sup>1</sup> Omitting καὶ πότερον . . . ἐστίν; with A B.

definition or genus or accident. But let no one suppose that we mean that each of these stated by itself is a proposition or a problem, but only that problems and propositions are made up of these. The problem and the proposition differ in the way in which they are stated. If we say, "Is not 'pedestrian biped animal' a definition of man?" or "Is not 'animal' the genus of man?" a proposition is formed. But if we say, "Is 'pedestrian biped animal' a definition of man, or not?" a problem is formed. Similarly too with the other cases. It naturally follows, therefore, that the problems and the propositions are equal in number; for you will be able to make a problem out of any proposition by altering the way in which it is stated.

V. We must next say what definition, property, genus and accident are. A *definition* is a phrase indicating the essence of something. The definition is asserted either as a phrase used in place of a term, or as a phrase used in place of a phrase; for it is possible to define some things also which are indicated by a phrase. But it is obvious that everyone who makes an assertion by means of a term in any way whatever, does not assert the definition of the thing, because every definition is a phrase of a certain kind. However, such a statement as "That which is seemly is beautiful" must also be put down as being 'definitory,' and likewise the question "Are sensation and knowledge the same thing or different?" For when we are dealing with definitions, we spend most of our time discussing whether things are the same or different. In a word, let us call 'definitory' everything which comes under the same kind of inquiry as do definitions; and it is self-evident that all the above-

*The four  
predicables:  
(a) Definition.*

102 a

τὰ νῦν ῥηθέντα τοιαῦτ' ἐστί, δῆλον ἐξ αὐτῶν.  
 δυνάμενοι γὰρ ὅτι ταῦτόν καὶ ὅτι ἕτερον διαλέγε-  
 σθαι, τῷ αὐτῷ τρόπῳ καὶ πρὸς τοὺς ὁρισμοὺς ἐπι-  
 χειρεῖν εὐπορήσομεν· δείξαντες γὰρ ὅτι οὐ ταῦτόν  
 ἐστὶν ἀνηρηκότες ἐσόμεθα τὸν ὁρισμόν. οὐ μὴν  
 15 ἀντιστρέφει γε τὸ νῦν ῥηθέν· οὐ γὰρ ἱκανὸν πρὸς  
 τὸ κατασκευάσαι τὸν ὁρισμόν τὸ δεῖξαι ταῦτόν ὄν.  
 πρὸς μέντοι τὸ ἀνασκευάσαι αὐταρκες τὸ δεῖξαι  
 ὅτι οὐ ταῦτόν.

Ἴδιον δ' ἐστὶν ὃ μὴ δηλοῖ μὲν τὸ τί ἦν εἶναι, μόνῳ  
 δ' ὑπάρχει καὶ ἀντικατηγορεῖται τοῦ πράγματος,  
 20 οἷον ἴδιον ἀνθρώπου τὸ γραμματικῆς εἶναι δεκτικόν·  
 εἰ γὰρ ἀνθρωπός ἐστι, γραμματικῆς δεκτικός ἐστι,  
 καὶ εἰ γραμματικῆς δεκτικός ἐστίν, ἀνθρωπός ἐστιν.  
 οὐθεὶς γὰρ ἴδιον λέγει τὸ ἐνδεχόμενον ἄλλῳ ὑπ-  
 ἄρχειν, οἷον τὸ καθεύδειν ἀνθρώπῳ, οὐδ' ἂν τύχη  
 25 κατὰ τινα χρόνον μόνῳ ὑπάρχον. εἰ δ' ἄρα τι καὶ  
 λέγοιτο τῶν τοιούτων ἴδιον, οὐχ ἁπλῶς ἀλλὰ ποτὲ  
 ἢ πρὸς τι ἴδιον ῥηθήσεται· τὸ μὲν γὰρ ἐκ δεξιῶν  
 εἶναι ποτὲ ἴδιόν ἐστι, τὸ δὲ δίπουν πρὸς τι ἴδιον  
 τυγχάνει λεγόμενον, οἷον τῷ ἀνθρώπῳ πρὸς ἵππον  
 καὶ κύνα. ὅτι δὲ τῶν ἐνδεχομένων ἄλλῳ ὑπάρχειν  
 30 οὐθὲν ἀντικατηγορεῖται, δῆλον· οὐ γὰρ ἀναγκαῖον,  
 εἴ τι καθεύδει, ἀνθρώπον εἶναι.

Γένος δ' ἐστὶ τὸ κατὰ πλειόνων καὶ διαφερόντων



## TOPICA, I. v

mentioned instances are of this kind. For when we can argue that things are the same or that they are different, we shall by the same method have an abundance of arguments for dealing with definitions also ; for when we have shown that a thing is not the same as another we shall have destroyed the definition. The converse of what we have just said does not, however, hold good ; for it is not enough for the construction of a definition to show that one thing is the same as another ; but, in order to destroy a definition, it is enough to show that it is not the same.

A *property* is something which does not show the essence of a thing but belongs to it alone and is predicated convertibly of it. For example, it is a property of man to be capable of learning grammar ; for if a certain being is a man, he is capable of learning grammar, and if he is capable of learning grammar, he is a man. For no one calls anything a property which can possibly belong to something else ; for example, he does not say that sleep is a property of man, even though at one moment it might happen to belong to him only. If, therefore, any such thing were to be called a property, it will be so called not absolutely but as at a certain time or in a certain relation ; for ' to be on the right-hand side ' is a property at a certain time, and ' biped ' is actually assigned as a property in a certain relation, for example, as a property of man in relation to a horse or a dog. That nothing which can possibly belong to something other than a certain thing is a convertible predicate of that thing is obvious ; for it does not necessarily follow that if anything is sleeping it is a man.

(b) Property.

A *genus* is that which is predicated in the category (c) Genus.

- 102 a τῷ εἶδει ἐν τῷ τί ἐστὶ κατηγορούμενον. ἐν τῷ τί  
 ἐστὶ δὲ κατηγορεῖσθαι τὰ τοιαῦτα λεγέσθω, ὅσα  
 ἀρμόττει ἀποδοῦναι ἐρωτηθέντα τί ἐστὶ τὸ προκει-  
 35 μενον, καθάπερ ἐπὶ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἀρμόττει, ἐρωτη-  
 θέντα τί ἐστὶ τὸ προκείμενον, εἰπεῖν ὅτι ζῶον.  
 γενικὸν δὲ καὶ τὸ πότερον ἐν τῷ αὐτῷ γένει ἄλλο  
 ἄλλῳ ἢ ἐν ἑτέρῳ. καὶ γὰρ τὸ τοιοῦτον ὑπὸ τὴν  
 αὐτὴν μέθοδον πίπτει τῷ γένει· διαλεχθέντες γὰρ ὅτι  
 τὸ ζῶον γένος τοῦ ἀνθρώπου, ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ τοῦ  
 βοός, διειλεγμένοι ἐσόμεθα ὅτι ἐν τῷ αὐτῷ γένει.
- 102 b ἐὰν δὲ τοῦ μὲν ἑτέρου δείξωμεν ὅτι γένος ἐστί, τοῦ  
 δὲ ἑτέρου ὅτι οὐκ ἔστι, διειλεγμένοι ἐσόμεθα ὅτι  
 οὐκ ἐν τῷ αὐτῷ γένει ταῦτ' ἐστίν.

Συμβεβηκὸς δὲ ἐστὶν ὁ μηδὲν μὲν τούτων ἐστί,  
 5 μήτε ὅρος μήτε ἴδιον μήτε γένος, ὑπάρχει δὲ τῷ  
 πράγματι, καὶ ὁ ἐνδέχεται ὑπάρχειν ὁποῦν ἐνὶ καὶ  
 τῷ αὐτῷ καὶ μὴ ὑπάρχειν, οἷον τὸ καθῆσθαι ἐν-  
 δέχεται ὑπάρχειν τινὶ τῷ αὐτῷ καὶ μὴ ὑπάρχειν.  
 ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ τὸ λευκόν· τὸ γὰρ αὐτὸ οὐθὲν κωλύει  
 10 ὅτ' ἐν μὲν λευκὸν ὅτ' ἐν μὴ λευκὸν εἶναι. ἔστι δὲ  
 τῶν τοῦ συμβεβηκότος ὀρισμῶν ὁ δεύτερος βελ-  
 τίων· τοῦ μὲν γὰρ πρώτου ῥηθέντος ἀναγκαῖον, εἰ  
 μέλλει τις συνήσειν, προειδέναί τί ἐστὶν ὅρος καὶ  
 γένος καὶ ἴδιον, ὁ δὲ δεύτερος αὐτοτελής ἐστὶ πρὸς  
 τὸ γνωρίζειν τί ποτ' ἐστὶ τὸ λεγόμενον καθ' αὐτό.

15 προσκείσθωσαν δὲ τῷ συμβεβηκότι καὶ αἱ πρὸς  
 ἄλληλα συγκρίσεις, ὅπως οὐν ἀπὸ τοῦ συμβεβηκότος  
 λεγόμεναι, οἷον πότερον τὸ καλὸν ἢ τὸ συμφέρον

of essence of several things which differ in kind. Predicates in the category of essence may be described as such things as are fittingly contained in the reply of one who has been asked "What is the object before you?" For example, in the case of man, if someone is asked what the object before him is, it is fitting for him to say "An animal." The question whether one thing is in the same genus as another thing or in a different one, is also a 'generic' question; for such a question also falls under the same kind of inquiry as the genus. For having argued that 'animal' is the genus of man and likewise also of ox, we shall have argued that they are in the same genus; but if we show that it is the genus of the one but not of the other, we shall have argued that they are not in the same genus.

An *accident* is that which is none of these things—neither definition, nor property, nor genus—but still belongs to the thing. Also it is something which can belong and not belong to any one particular thing; for example, 'a sitting position' can belong or not belong to some one particular thing. This is likewise true of 'whiteness'; for there is nothing to prevent the same thing being at one time white and at another not white. The second of these definitions of accident is the better; for when the first is enunciated, it is necessary, if one is to understand it, to know beforehand what is meant by 'definition' and 'genus' and 'property,' whereas the second suffices of itself to enable us to know what is meant without anything more. We may place also in the category of accident comparisons of things with one another, when they are described in terms derived in any way from accident; for example, the questions "Is the honour-

(d) Accident.

102 b

αἰρετώτερον, καὶ πότερον ὁ κατ' ἀρετὴν ἢ ὁ κατ'  
 ἀπόλαυσιν ἡδίων βίος, καὶ εἴ τι ἄλλο παραπλησίως  
 τυγχάνει τούτοις λεγόμενον· ἐπὶ πάντων γὰρ τῶν  
 20 τοιούτων, ποτέρῳ μᾶλλον τὸ κατηγορούμενον συμ-  
 βέβηκεν, ἢ ζήτησις γίνεται. δῆλον δ' ἐξ αὐτῶν  
 ὅτι τὸ συμβεβηκὸς οὐθὲν κωλύει ποτὲ καὶ πρὸς τι  
 ἴδιον γίνεσθαι, οἷον τὸ καθῆσθαι συμβεβηκὸς ὄν,  
 ὅταν τις μόνος κάθηται, τότε ἴδιον ἔσται, μὴ μόνου  
 δὲ καθημένου πρὸς τοὺς μὴ καθημένους ἴδιον.  
 25 ὥστε καὶ πρὸς τι καὶ ποτὲ οὐθὲν κωλύει τὸ συμ-  
 βεβηκὸς ἴδιον γίνεσθαι. ἀπλῶς δ' ἴδιον οὐκ ἔσται.

VI. Μὴ λανθανέτω δ' ἡμᾶς ὅτι τὰ πρὸς τὸ ἴδιον  
 καὶ τὸ γένος καὶ τὸ συμβεβηκὸς πάντα καὶ πρὸς  
 τοὺς ὁρισμοὺς ἀρμόσει λέγεσθαι. δείξαντες γὰρ  
 30 ὅτι οὐ μόνῳ ὑπάρχει τῷ ὑπὸ τὸν ὁρισμόν, ὥσπερ  
 καὶ ἐπὶ τοῦ ιδίου, ἢ ὅτι οὐ γένος τὸ ἀποδοθὲν  
 ἐν τῷ ὁρισμῷ, ἢ ὅτι οὐχ ὑπάρχει τι τῶν ἐν τῷ  
 λόγῳ ῥηθέντων, ὅπερ καὶ ἐπὶ τοῦ συμβεβηκότος  
 ἂν ῥηθείη, ἀνηρηκότες ἐσόμεθα τὸν ὁρισμόν· ὥστε  
 35 κατὰ τὸν ἔμπροσθεν ἀποδοθέντα λόγον ἅπαντ' ἂν  
 εἴη τρόπον τινὰ ὁρικὰ τὰ κατηριθμημένα. ἀλλ' οὐ  
 διὰ τοῦτο μίαν ἐπὶ πάντων καθόλου μέθοδον ζητη-  
 τέον· οὔτε γὰρ ῥάδιον εὐρεῖν τοῦτ' ἐστίν, εἴ θ'  
 εὐρεθείη, παντελῶς ἀσαφὴς καὶ δύσχρηστος ἂν εἴη  
 πρὸς τὴν προκειμένην πραγματείαν. ιδίας δὲ καθ'



able or the expedient preferable?" and "Is the life of virtue or the life of enjoyment more pleasant?" and any other question which happens to be expressed in a similar kind of way; for in all such cases the question is to which of the two does the predicate more properly belong as an accident. It is self-evident that nothing prevents the accident from being temporarily or relatively a property; for example, the position of sitting, though it is an accident, will at the time be a property, when a man is the only person seated, while, if he is not the only person seated, it will be a property in relation to any persons who are not seated. Thus nothing prevents the accident from becoming both a relative and a temporary property, but it will never be a property absolutely.

VI. We must not, however, omit to notice that everything which is applicable to property, genus and accident can be fittingly applied to definitions also. For when we have shown that some attribute does not belong to the subject of the definition only (as we do also in the case of a property), or that what is assigned in the definition is not the true genus of the subject, or that something mentioned in the statement does not belong (as would also be asserted in the case of an accident), we shall have destroyed the definition; and so, in accordance with the statement made above, all the cases which have been enumerated would be in a sense 'definitory.' But we must not for this reason seek for a single method of inquiry which is generally applicable to all of them; for it is not easy to discover, and if it were to be discovered, it would be wholly obscure and difficult to apply to our present treatise. If, however, a special method

How far can the predi-  
cables be  
treated  
separately?

102 b

ἕκαστον τῶν διορισθέντων γενῶν ἀποδοθείσης μεθ-  
 103 a ὁδοῦ ῥᾶον ἐκ τῶν περὶ ἕκαστον οἰκείων ἢ διέξ-  
 οδος τοῦ προκειμένου γένοιτ' ἄν. ὥστε τύπῳ  
 μέν, καθάπερ εἴρηται πρότερον, διαιρετέον, τῶν δὲ  
 λοιπῶν τὰ μάλισθ' ἐκάστοις οἰκεῖα προσαπτέον,  
 ὀρικά τε καὶ γενικά προσαγορεύοντας αὐτά. σχε-  
 5 δὸν δὲ προσήπται τὰ ῥηθέντα πρὸς ἐκάστοις.

VII. Πρῶτον δὲ πάντων περὶ ταυτοῦ διοριστέον,  
 ποσαχῶς λέγεται. δόξειε δ' ἂν τὸ ταῦτόν ὥς τύπῳ  
 λαβεῖν τριχῇ διαιρεῖσθαι. ἀριθμῷ γὰρ ἢ εἶδει ἢ  
 γένει τὸ ταῦτόν εἰώθαμεν προσαγορεύειν, ἀριθμῷ  
 10 μὲν ὧν ὀνόματα πλείω τὸ δὲ πρᾶγμα ἓν, οἷον  
 λῶπιον καὶ ἱμάτιον, εἶδει δὲ ὅσα πλείω ὄντα ἀδιά-  
 φορα κατὰ τὸ εἶδος ἐστι, καθάπερ ἄνθρωπος ἄν-  
 θρώπῳ καὶ ἵππος ἵππῳ· τὰ γὰρ τοιαῦτα τῷ εἶδει  
 λέγεται ταῦτά, ὅσα ὑπὸ ταῦτό εἶδος. ὁμοίως δὲ  
 καὶ γένει ταῦτά, ὅσα ὑπὸ ταῦτό γένος ἐστίν, οἷον  
 15 ἵππος ἀνθρώπῳ. δόξειε δ' ἂν τὸ ἀπὸ τῆς αὐτῆς  
 κρήνης ὕδωρ ταῦτόν λεγόμενον ἔχειν τινὰ διαφορὰν  
 παρὰ τοὺς εἰρημένους τρόπους· οὐ μὲν ἀλλὰ καὶ  
 τὸ τοιοῦτόν γε ἐν τῷ αὐτῷ τετάχθω τοῖς καθ' ἐν  
 εἶδος ὅπως οὖν λεγομένοις. ἅπαντα γὰρ τὰ τοιαῦτα  
 συγγενῇ καὶ παραπλήσια ἀλλήλοις ἔοικεν εἶναι.  
 20 πᾶν μὲν γὰρ ὕδωρ παντὶ ταῦτόν τῷ εἶδει λέγεται  
 διὰ τὸ ἔχειν τινὰ ὁμοιότητα, τὸ δ' ἀπὸ τῆς αὐτῆς  
 κρήνης ὕδωρ οὐδενὶ ἄλλῳ διαφέρει ἀλλ' ἢ τῷ  
 σφοδροτέραν εἶναι τὴν ὁμοιότητα· διὸ οὐ χωρίζομεν

of inquiry is provided for each of the different classes which we have distinguished, the exposition of the subject before us would be more easily performed on the basis of what is appropriate to each class. And so, as has already been said, we must make broad divisions and fit into them those of the other questions which are most appropriate to each, calling them 'definitory' and 'generic.' The questions to which I referred have now been, for all intents and purposes, assigned to their several classes.

VII. First of all we must distinguish the various meanings of 'the same.' In general, 'sameness' would seem to fall into three divisions; for we usually speak of numerical, specific and generic sameness. There is *numerical* sameness when there is more than one name for the same thing, *e.g.*, 'mantle' and 'cloak.' There is *specific* sameness when there are several things but they do not differ in species, *e.g.*, one man and another man, one horse and another horse; for such things as fall under the same species are said to be specifically the same. Similarly things are *generically* the same when they fall under the same genus, *e.g.*, horse and man. Water from the same fountain described as 'the same water' might seem to have a sameness differing somewhat from the above-mentioned kinds; however, a case of this kind ought also to be placed in the same class as those which are called in any sense the same as belonging to one species. For all such things seem to be akin and similar to one another; for any water is said to be specifically the same as any other water because it has a certain similarity to it, and water from the same fountain differs in no other respect than in its more striking degree of similarity; and so we do not

The various uses of the term 'sameness':

(a) Numerical.

(b) Specific.

(c) Generic.

103 a

αὐτὸ τῶν καθ' ἓν εἶδος ὅπως οὖν λεγομένων. μάλιστα δ' ὁμολογουμένως τὸ ἐν ἀριθμῷ ταῦτόν παρὰ  
 25 πᾶσι δοκεῖ λέγεσθαι. εἴωθε δὲ καὶ τοῦτο ἀπο-  
 δίδοσθαι πλεοναχῶς, κυριώτατα μὲν καὶ πρώτως  
 ὅταν ὀνόματι ἢ ὄρω τὸ ταῦτόν ἀποδοθῇ, καθάπερ  
 ἱμάτιον λωπίῳ καὶ ζῶον πεζὸν δίπουν ἀνθρώπῳ,  
 δεύτερον δ' ὅταν τῷ ἰδίῳ, καθάπερ τὸ ἐπιστήμης  
 δεκτικὸν ἀνθρώπῳ καὶ τὸ τῇ φύσει ἄνω φερόμενον  
 30 πυρί, τρίτον δ' ὅταν ἀπὸ τοῦ συμβεβηκότος, οἷον  
 τὸ καθήμενον ἢ τὸ μουσικὸν Σωκράτει. πάντα γὰρ  
 ταῦτα τὸ ἐν ἀριθμῷ βούλεται σημαίνειν. ὅτι δ'  
 ἀληθὲς τὸ νῦν ῥηθέν ἐστίν, ἐκ τῶν μεταβαλλόντων  
 τὰς προσηγορίας μάλιστα ἂν τις καταμάθοι. πολ-  
 λάκις γὰρ ἐπιτάσσοντες ὀνόματι καλέσαι τινὰ τῶν  
 35 καθημένων μεταβάλλομεν, ὅταν τύχη μὴ συνιᾷς  
 ὦ τὴν πρόσταξιν ποιούμεθα, ὡς ἀπὸ τοῦ συμβε-  
 βηκότος αὐτοῦ μᾶλλον συνήσοντος, καὶ κελεύομεν  
 τὸν καθήμενον ἢ διαλεγόμενον καλέσαι πρὸς ἡμᾶς,  
 δῆλον ὡς ταῦτόν ὑπολαμβάνοντες κατὰ τε τοῦνομα  
 καὶ κατὰ τὸ συμβεβηκὸς σημαίνειν.

103 b

VIII. Τὸ μὲν οὖν ταῦτόν, καθάπερ εἴρηται, τριχῇ  
 διηρήσθω. ὅτι δ' ἐκ τῶν πρότερον εἰρημένων οἱ  
 λόγοι καὶ διὰ τούτων καὶ πρὸς ταῦτα, μία μὲν

<sup>a</sup> But not saying he was seated.



distinguish it from the things called in any sense the same as belonging to one species. The term 'the same' seems to be applied with the most general acceptance of everyone to that which is numerically one. But even this is usually employed in several senses. Its principal and primary sense occurs when sameness is applied to a name or a definition, *e.g.*, when a 'cloak' is said to be the same as a 'mantle,' or when 'a biped pedestrian animal' is said to be the same as a 'man.' A second sense occurs when sameness is applied to a property, *e.g.*, when 'capable of receiving knowledge' is said to be the same as 'man,' and 'that which is naturally carried upwards' is said to be the same as 'fire.' A third sense occurs when the sameness is based on an accident, *e.g.*, when 'that which is seated' or 'that which is musical' is said to be the same as 'Socrates.' All these uses aim at indicating numerical oneness. That what we have just said is true can best be understood by a change of the manner of description; for often when we order someone to summon one of several seated persons, giving his name,<sup>a</sup> we change the description when the person to whom we are giving the order does not happen to understand, since he will understand better from some accidental feature; we, therefore, tell him to summon 'the man who is seated' or 'the man who is talking,' obviously conceiving that we are indicating the same thing both when we name it and when we state an accident of it.

VIII. Of 'sameness,' then, as has been said, three senses can be distinguished. Now that arguments start from the above-mentioned elements and proceed through them and lead up to them is proved, in the

Twofold  
proof of the  
division of  
predicables.

103 b

πίστις ἢ διὰ τῆς ἐπαγωγῆς· εἰ γὰρ τις ἐπισκόποιῃ  
 ἐκάστην τῶν προτάσεων καὶ τῶν προβλημάτων,  
 5 φαίνοιτ' ἂν ἢ ἀπὸ τοῦ ὅρου ἢ ἀπὸ τοῦ ἰδίου ἢ ἀπὸ  
 τοῦ γένους ἢ ἀπὸ τοῦ συμβεβηκότος γεγενημένη.  
 ἄλλη δὲ πίστις ἢ διὰ συλλογισμοῦ. ἀνάγκη γὰρ  
 πᾶν τὸ περὶ τινος κατηγορούμενον ἥτοι ἀντικα-  
 τηγορεῖσθαι τοῦ πράγματος ἢ μὴ. καὶ εἰ μὲν ἀντι-  
 κατηγορεῖται, ὅρος ἢ ἴδιον ἂν εἴη· εἰ μὲν γὰρ  
 10 σημαίνει τὸ τί ἦν εἶναι, ὅρος, εἰ δὲ μὴ σημαίνει,  
 ἴδιον· τοῦτο γὰρ ἦν ἴδιον, τὸ ἀντικατηγορούμενον  
 μέν, μὴ σημαῖνον δὲ τὸ τί ἦν εἶναι. εἰ δὲ μὴ  
 ἀντικατηγορεῖται τοῦ πράγματος, ἥτοι τῶν ἐν τῷ  
 ὀρισμῷ τοῦ ὑποκειμένου λεγομένων ἐστὶν ἢ οὐ.  
 καὶ εἰ μὲν τῶν ἐν τῷ ὀρισμῷ λεγομένων, γένος  
 15 ἢ διαφορὰ ἂν εἴη, ἐπειδὴ ὁ ὀρισμὸς ἐκ γένους καὶ  
 διαφορῶν ἐστίν· εἰ δὲ μὴ τῶν ἐν τῷ ὀρισμῷ  
 λεγομένων ἐστί, δῆλον ὅτι συμβεβηκὸς ἂν εἴη· τὸ  
 γὰρ συμβεβηκὸς ἐλέγετο ὁ μήτε ὅρος μήτε γένος  
 μήτε ἴδιόν ἐστιν, ὑπάρχει δὲ τῷ πράγματι.

20 IX. Μετὰ τοίνυν ταῦτα δεῖ διορίσασθαι τὰ γένη  
 τῶν κατηγοριῶν, ἐν οἷς ὑπάρχουσιν αἱ ῥηθεῖσαι  
 τέτταρες. ἔστι δὲ ταῦτα τὸν ἀριθμὸν δέκα, τί  
 ἐστι, ποσόν, ποιόν, πρὸς τι, ποῦ, ποτέ, κεῖσθαι,  
 ἔχειν, ποιεῖν, πάσχειν. αἰ γὰρ τὸ συμβεβηκὸς  
 25 καὶ τὸ γένος καὶ τὸ ἴδιον καὶ ὁ ὀρισμὸς ἐν μιᾷ  
 τούτων τῶν κατηγοριῶν ἔσται· πᾶσαι γὰρ αἱ διὰ  
 τούτων προτάσεις ἢ τί ἐστίν ἢ ποιόν ἢ ποσόν ἢ  
 τῶν ἄλλων τινὰ κατηγοριῶν σημαίνουσιν. δῆλον

first place, by *induction*. For if one were to examine each separate proposition and problem, it would be clear that it has come into being either from the definition of something or from its property or from its genus or from its accident. Another proof is through *reasoning*; for necessarily anything which is predicated about something must either be or not be convertible with its subject. If it is convertible, it would be a definition or a property; for if it indicates the essence, it is a definition, but, if it does not do so, it is a property; for we saw <sup>a</sup> that this was a property, namely, that which is predicated convertibly but does not indicate the essence. If, however, it is not predicated convertibly with the subject, it either is or is not one of the terms given in the definition of the subject; and if it is one of the terms in the definition, it must be either the genus or the differentia, since the definition is composed of genus and differentiae. If, however, it is not one of the terms given in the definition, obviously it must be an accident; for the accident was said <sup>b</sup> to be that which, while it belongs to the subject, is neither a definition nor a genus nor a property.

IX. Next we must define the kinds of categories in which the four above-mentioned predicates are found. They are ten in number: essence, quantity, quality, relation, place, time, position, state, activity, passivity. For the accident, the genus, the property and the definition will always be in one of these categories; for all propositions made by means of these indicate either essence or quality or quantity or one of the other categories. It is self-evident that he who

The ten Categories and their relation to the predicables.

<sup>a</sup> 102 a 18.

<sup>b</sup> 102 b 4.

103 b δ' ἐξ αὐτῶν ὅτι ὁ τὸ τί ἐστι σημαίνων ὅτε μὲν οὐσίαν σημαίνει, ὅτε δὲ ποιόν, ὅτε δὲ τῶν ἄλλων τινὰ κατηγοριῶν. ὅταν μὲν γὰρ ἐκκειμένου ἀν-  
 30 θρώπου φῇ τὸ ἐκκειμένον ἄνθρωπον εἶναι ἢ ζῶον, τί ἐστι λέγει καὶ οὐσίαν σημαίνει· ὅταν δὲ χρώ-  
 ματος λευκοῦ ἐκκειμένου φῇ τὸ ἐκκειμένον λευκὸν εἶναι ἢ χρῶμα, τί ἐστι λέγει καὶ ποιόν σημαίνει. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐὰν πηχυαίου μεγέθους ἐκκειμένου φῇ τὸ ἐκκειμένον πηχυαῖον εἶναι μέγεθος, τί ἐστιν  
 35 ἐρεῖ καὶ ποσὸν σημαίνει. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων· ἕκαστον γὰρ τῶν τοιούτων, ἐὰν τε αὐτὸ περὶ αὐτοῦ λέγῃται ἐὰν τε τὸ γένος περὶ τούτου, τί ἐστι σημαίνει. ὅταν δὲ περὶ ἐτέρου, οὐ τί ἐστι σημαίνει, ἀλλὰ ποσὸν ἢ ποιόν ἢ τινα τῶν ἄλλων κατηγοριῶν. ὥστε περὶ ὧν μὲν οἱ λόγοι καὶ ἐξ  
 104 a ὧν, ταῦτα καὶ τοσαῦτά ἐστι· πῶς δὲ ληψόμεθα καὶ δι' ὧν εὐπορήσομεν, μετὰ ταῦτα λεκτέον.

X. Πρῶτον τοίνυν διωρίσθω, τί ἐστι πρότασις διαλεκτικὴ καὶ τί πρόβλημα διαλεκτικόν. οὐ γὰρ πᾶσαν πρότασιν οὐδὲ πᾶν πρόβλημα διαλεκτικόν  
 5 θετέον· οὐδεὶς γὰρ ἂν προτείνειε νοῦν ἔχων τὸ μη-  
 δενὶ δοκοῦν, οὐδὲ προβάλοι τὸ πᾶσι φανερόν ἢ τοῖς πλείστοις· τὰ μὲν γὰρ οὐκ ἔχει ἀπορίαν, τὰ δ' οὐδεὶς ἂν θείῃ. ἔστι δὲ πρότασις διαλεκτικὴ ἐρώ-  
 τησις ἔνδοξος ἢ πᾶσιν ἢ τοῖς πλείστοις ἢ τοῖς  
 10 σοφοῖς, καὶ τούτοις ἢ πᾶσιν ἢ τοῖς πλείστοις ἢ τοῖς



indicates the essence of something, indicates sometimes a substance, sometimes a quality, and sometimes one of the other categories. For when a man is put before him and he says that what is put before him is a man or an animal, he states an essence and indicates a substance ; but when a white colour is put before him and he says that what is put before him is white or a colour, he states an essence and indicates a quality. Similarly, if a magnitude of a cubit is put before him and he says that what is put before him is a magnitude of a cubit, he will be stating an essence and is indicating a quantity. Similarly with the other kinds of predicates ; for each of such things, both if it be asserted about itself and if its genus be asserted about it, indicates an essence ; but when it is asserted about something else, it does not indicate an essence but a quality or quantity or one of the other categories. Such then is the nature and such is the number of the subjects about which arguments take place and the materials on which they are based. How we shall derive them and by what means we shall obtain a supply of them, must next be stated.

X. In the first place then let us define the nature of a dialectical proposition and a dialectical problem. For not every proposition and every problem can be put down as dialectical ; for no man of sense would put into a proposition that which is no one's opinion, nor into a problem that which is manifest to everyone or to most people ; for the latter raises no question, while the former no one would accept. Now a *dialectical proposition* is a question which accords with the opinion held by everyone or by the majority or by the wise—either all of the wise or the majority or the most

Dialectical  
Proposi-  
tions.

104 a

μάλιστα γνωρίμοις, μὴ παράδοξος· θεΐη γὰρ ἂν τις  
 τὸ δοκοῦν τοῖς σοφοῖς, ἔαν μὴ ἐναντίον ταῖς τῶν  
 πολλῶν δόξαις ᾗ. εἰσὶ δὲ προτάσεις διαλεκτικαὶ  
 καὶ τὰ τοῖς ἐνδόξοις ὅμοια, καὶ τὰναντία κατ' ἀντί-  
 φασιν τοῖς δοκοῦσιν ἐνδόξοις εἶναι προτείνόμενα,  
 15 καὶ ὅσαι δόξαι κατὰ τέχνας εἰσὶ τὰς εὐρημένας. εἰ  
 γὰρ ἔνδοξον τὸ τὴν αὐτὴν εἶναι τῶν ἐναντίων ἐπι-  
 στήμην, καὶ τὸ αἰσθῆσιν τὴν αὐτὴν εἶναι τῶν ἐν-  
 ἀντίων ἔνδοξον ἂν φανείη, καὶ εἰ μίαν ἀριθμῶ  
 γραμματικὴν εἶναι, καὶ αὐλητικὴν μίαν, εἰ δὲ πλεί-  
 ους γραμματικάς, καὶ αὐλητικάς πλείους· πάντα  
 20 γὰρ ὅμοια καὶ συγγενῇ ταῦτ' ἔοικεν εἶναι. ὁμοίως  
 δὲ καὶ τὰ τοῖς ἐνδόξοις ἐναντία κατ' ἀντίφασιν προ-  
 τεινόμενα ἔνδοξα φανέονται· εἰ γὰρ ἔνδοξον ὅτι δεῖ  
 τοὺς φίλους εὖ ποιεῖν, καὶ ὅτι οὐ δεῖ κακῶς ποιεῖν  
 ἔνδοξον. ἔστι δ' ἐναντίον μὲν ὅτι δεῖ κακῶς ποιεῖν  
 25 τοὺς φίλους, κατ' ἀντίφασιν δὲ ὅτι οὐ δεῖ κακῶς  
 ποιεῖν. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ εἰ δεῖ τοὺς φίλους εὖ ποιεῖν,  
 τοὺς ἐχθροὺς οὐ δεῖ. ἔστι δὲ καὶ τοῦτο κατ' ἀντί-  
 φασιν τῶν ἐναντίων· τὸ γὰρ ἐναντίον ἐστὶν ὅτι  
 δεῖ τοὺς ἐχθροὺς εὖ ποιεῖν. ὡσαύτως δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ  
 τῶν ἄλλων. ἔνδοξον δ' ἐν παραβολῇ φανέεται καὶ  
 τὸ ἐναντίον περὶ τοῦ ἐναντίου, οἷον εἰ τοὺς φίλους  
 30 δεῖ εὖ ποιεῖν, καὶ τοὺς ἐχθροὺς δεῖ κακῶς. φανείη

famous of them—and which is not paradoxical ; for one would accept the opinion of the wise, if it is not opposed to the views of the majority. Views which are similar to received opinions are also dialectical propositions, and so also are propositions made by way of contradicting the contrary of received opinions, and also views which accord with the arts which have been discovered. For if it is a received opinion that the knowledge of contraries is the same, it might seem to be a received opinion that the perception also of contraries is the same ; and if it is a received opinion that there is a single art of grammar, it might seem to be a received opinion that there is also only one art of flute-playing, whereas if it is a received opinion that there is more than one art of grammar, it might seem to be a received opinion that there is also more than one art of flute-playing ; for all these seem to be similar and akin. In like manner, also, propositions made by way of contradicting the contrary of received opinions will seem to be received opinions ; for if it is a received opinion that one ought to do good to one's friends, it will also be a received opinion that one ought not to do them harm. Now that we ought to harm our friends is contrary to the received opinion, and this stated in a contradictory form is that we ought not to harm our friends. Likewise also, if we ought to do good to our friends, we ought not to do good to our enemies ; this also takes the form of a contradiction of contraries, for the contrary is that we ought to do good to our enemies. The same is true of all the other cases. The contrary stated about the contrary in a comparison will also appear to be a received opinion ; for example, if we ought to do good to our friends, we ought also to do harm to our

104 a

δ' ἂν καὶ ἐναντίον τὸ τοὺς φίλους εὖ ποιεῖν τῷ τοὺς  
 ἐχθροὺς κακῶς· πότερον δὲ καὶ κατ' ἀλήθειαν  
 οὕτως ἔχει ἢ οὐ, ἐν τοῖς ὑπὲρ τῶν ἐναντίων  
 λεγομένοις ῥηθήσεται. δῆλον δ' ὅτι καὶ ὅσαι δόξαι  
 κατὰ τέχνας εἰσὶ, διαλεκτικαὶ προτάσεις εἰσὶ· θείη  
 35 γὰρ ἂν τις τὰ δοκοῦντα τοῖς ὑπὲρ τούτων ἐπεσκευ-  
 μένοις, οἷον περὶ μὲν τῶν ἐν ἱατρικῇ ὥς ὁ ἱατρός,  
 περὶ δὲ τῶν ἐν γεωμετρίᾳ ὥς ὁ γεωμέτρης· ὁμοίως  
 δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων.

104 b

XI. Πρόβλημα δ' ἐστὶ διαλεκτικὸν θεώρημα τὸ  
 συντεῖνον ἢ πρὸς αἵρεσιν καὶ φυγὴν ἢ πρὸς ἀλή-  
 θειαν καὶ γνῶσιν, ἢ αὐτὸ ἢ ὥς συνεργὸν πρὸς τι  
 ἕτερον τῶν τοιούτων· περὶ οὗ ἢ οὐδετέρως δοξά-  
 ζουσιν ἢ ἐναντίως οἱ πολλοὶ τοῖς σοφοῖς ἢ οἱ  
 5 σοφοὶ τοῖς πολλοῖς ἢ ἑκάτεροι αὐτοὶ ἑαυτοῖς. ἔνια  
 μὲν γὰρ τῶν προβλημάτων χρήσιμον εἰδέναι πρὸς  
 τὸ ἐλέσθαι ἢ φυγεῖν, οἷον πότερον ἢ ἡδονὴ αἰρετὸν  
 ἢ οὐ, ἔνια δὲ πρὸς τὸ εἰδέναι μόνον, οἷον πότερον  
 ὁ κόσμος αἰδῖος ἢ οὐ, ἔνια δὲ αὐτὰ μὲν καθ' αὐτὰ  
 10 πρὸς οὐδέτερον τούτων, συνεργὰ δέ ἐστι πρὸς τινα  
 τῶν τοιούτων· πολλὰ γὰρ αὐτὰ μὲν καθ' αὐτὰ οὐ  
 βουλόμεθα γνωρίζειν, ἑτέρων δ' ἕνεκα, ὅπως διὰ  
 τούτων ἄλλο τι γνωρίσωμεν. ἐστὶ δὲ προβλή-  
 ματα καὶ ὧν ἐναντίοι εἰσὶ συλλογισμοί (ἀπορίαν  
 γὰρ ἔχει πότερον οὕτως ἔχει ἢ οὐχ οὕτως διὰ τὸ



enemies. To do good to one's friends might also appear to be the contrary of doing harm to one's enemies ; but whether this is really true or not will be dealt with in our discussions of contraries.<sup>a</sup> It is also obvious that all opinions which accord with the arts are dialectical propositions ; for one would accept the opinions of those who have examined the subjects in question. For example, on questions of medicine one would think as the doctor thinks and in matters of geometry as the geometrician thinks, and so too with the other arts.

XI. A *dialectical problem* is an investigation leading either to choice and avoidance or to truth and knowledge, either by itself or as an aid to the solution of some other such problem. Its subject is something about which either men have no opinion either way, or most people hold an opinion contrary to that of the wise, or the wise contrary to that of most people, or about which members of each of these classes disagree among themselves. The knowledge of some of these problems is useful for the purpose of choice or avoidance ; for example, whether pleasure is worthy of choice or not. The knowledge of some of these is useful purely for the sake of knowledge, for example, whether the universe is eternal or not. Others, again, are not useful in themselves for either of these purposes but as an aid to the solution of some similar problem ; for there are many things which we do not wish to know for themselves but for other purposes, in order that through them we may obtain knowledge of something else. Problems also occur where reasonings are in conflict (for they involve a doubt whether something is so or not, because there

Dialectical  
Problems.

<sup>a</sup> 112 b 27 ff.

περὶ ἀμφοτέρων εἶναι λόγους πιθανούς) καὶ περὶ  
 15 ὧν λόγον μὴ ἔχομεν ὄντων μεγάλων, χαλεπὸν οἰό-  
 μενοι εἶναι τὸ διὰ τί ἀποδοῦναι, οἷον πότερον ὁ  
 κόσμος αἰδῖος ἢ οὐ· καὶ γὰρ τὰ τοιαῦτα ζητήσκειν  
 ἂν τις.

Τὰ μὲν οὖν προβλήματα καὶ αἱ προτάσεις, καθ-  
 ἀπερ εἴρηται, διωρίσθω· θέσις δέ ἐστιν ὑπόληψις  
 20 παράδοξος τῶν γνωρίμων τινὸς κατὰ φιλοσοφίαν,  
 οἷον ὅτι οὐκ ἔστιν ἀντιλέγειν, καθάπερ ἔφη Ἀντι-  
 σθένης, ἢ ὅτι πάντα κινεῖται καθ' Ἡράκλειτον,  
 ἢ ὅτι ἐν τῷ ὄν, καθάπερ Μέλισσός φησιν· τὸ γὰρ  
 τοῦ τυχόντος ἐναντία ταῖς δόξαις ἀποφνημαμένου  
 φροντίζειν εὖηθες. ἢ περὶ ὧν λόγον ἔχομεν ἐναν-  
 25 τίον ταῖς δόξαις, οἷον ὅτι οὐ πᾶν τὸ ὄν ἦτοι γενό-  
 μενόν ἐστιν ἢ αἰδῖον, καθάπερ οἱ σοφισταί φασιν·  
 μουσικὸν γὰρ ὄντα γραμματικὸν εἶναι οὔτε γενό-  
 μενον οὔτε αἰδῖον ὄντα. τοῦτο γάρ, εἰ καὶ τινι μὴ  
 δοκεῖ, δόξειεν ἂν διὰ τὸ λόγον ἔχειν.

Ἔστι μὲν οὖν καὶ ἡ θέσις πρόβλημα· οὐ πᾶν δέ  
 30 πρόβλημα θέσις, ἐπειδὴ ἔνια τῶν προβλημάτων  
 τοιαῦτ' ἐστὶ περὶ ὧν οὐδετέρως δοξάζομεν. ὅτι δέ  
 ἐστὶ καὶ ἡ θέσις πρόβλημα, δηλόν· ἀνάγκη γὰρ ἐκ  
 τῶν εἰρημένων ἢ τοὺς πολλοὺς τοῖς σοφοῖς περὶ τὴν  
 θέσιν ἀμφισβητεῖν ἢ ὁποτέρουσοῦν ἑαυτοῖς, ἐπειδὴ  
 35 ὑπόληψις τις παράδοξος ἢ θέσις ἐστίν. σχεδὸν δέ  
 νῦν πάντα τὰ διαλεκτικὰ προβλήματα θέσεις κα-  
 λοῦνται. διαφερέτω δέ μὴδὲν ὁπωσοῦν λεγόμενον·  
 οὐ γὰρ ὀνοματοποιῆσαι βουλόμενοι διείλομεν οὕτως  
 300

are strong arguments on both sides), and also where, because the questions are so vast, we have no argument to offer, thinking it difficult to assign a reason, for example, whether the universe is eternal or not ; for one might inquire into such questions also.

Let problems, then, and propositions be defined in the manner already stated. A thesis is the conception contrary to general opinion but propounded by someone famous as a philosopher ; for example, "Contradiction is impossible," as Antisthenes said, or the opinion of Heraclitus that "All things are in a state of motion " or " Being is one," as Melissus says ; for to pay any attention when an ordinary person sets forth views which are contrary to received opinions is foolish. Or a thesis may concern matters about which we hold a reasoned view contrary to received opinions ; for example, the view of the sophists that not everything which is has come into being or is eternal ; for a musical man, who is a grammarian, is a grammarian, though he has not come to be so and is not so eternally. This view, even if it is not acceptable to some people, might be accepted on the ground that it is reasonable.

Dialectical  
Theses.

A thesis is also a problem ; but not every problem is a thesis, since some problems are such that we hold no opinion about them either way. That a thesis is also a problem is obvious ; for it necessarily follows from what has been already said that either the many are at variance with the wise about a thesis or that one of these two classes is at variance within itself, since a thesis is a conception which is contrary to accepted opinion. Almost all dialectical problems are now called theses. But it need not matter which of the two names is used ; for we distinguished them

105 a αὐτά, ἀλλ' ἵνα μὴ λανθάνωσιν ἡμᾶς τίνες αὐτῶν  
 τυγχάνουσιν οὕσαι διαφοραί.

Οὐ δεῖ δὲ πᾶν πρόβλημα οὐδὲ πᾶσαν θέσιν ἐπι-  
 σκοπεῖν, ἀλλ' ἣν ἀπορήσειεν ἂν τις τῶν λόγου  
 5 δεομένων καὶ μὴ κολάσεως ἢ αἰσθήσεως· οἱ μὲν  
 γὰρ ἀποροῦντες πότερον δεῖ τοὺς θεοὺς τιμᾶν καὶ  
 τοὺς γονέας ἀγαπᾶν ἢ οὐ κολάσεως δέονται, οἱ δὲ  
 πότερον ἢ χιῶν λευκή ἢ οὐ αἰσθήσεως. οὐδὲ δὴ  
 ὦν σύνεγγυς ἢ ἀπόδειξις, οὐδ' ὦν λίαν πόρρω· τὰ  
 μὲν γὰρ οὐκ ἔχει ἀπορίαν, τὰ δὲ πλείω ἢ κατὰ  
 γυμναστικήν.

10 XII. Διωρισμένων δὲ τούτων χρή διελέσθαι πόσα  
 τῶν λόγων εἶδη τῶν διαλεκτικῶν. ἔστι δὲ τὸ μὲν  
 ἐπαγωγή, τὸ δὲ συλλογισμός. καὶ συλλογισμός  
 μὲν τί ἐστιν, εἴρηται πρότερον, ἐπαγωγή δὲ ἢ ἀπὸ  
 τῶν καθ' ἕκαστον ἐπὶ τὰ καθόλου ἔφοδος, οἷον εἰ  
 15 ἔστι κυβερνήτης ὁ ἐπιστάμενος κράτιστος καὶ ἡνί-  
 οχος, καὶ ὅλως ἐστὶν ὁ ἐπιστάμενος περὶ ἕκαστον  
 ἄριστος. ἔστι δ' ἢ μὲν ἐπαγωγή πιθανώτερον καὶ  
 σαφέστερον καὶ κατὰ τὴν αἴσθησιν γνωριμώτερον  
 καὶ τοῖς πολλοῖς κοινόν, ὁ δὲ συλλογισμός βιαστι-  
 κώτερον καὶ πρὸς τοὺς ἀντιλογικοὺς ἐνεργέστερον.

20 XIII. Τὰ μὲν οὖν γένη περὶ ὧν τε οἱ λόγοι καὶ  
 ἐξ ὧν, καθάπερ ἔμπροσθεν εἴρηται, διωρίσθω· τὰ  
 δ' ὄργανα, δι' ὧν εὐπορήσομεν τῶν συλλογισμῶν  
 [καὶ τῶν ἐπαγωγῶν,]<sup>1</sup> ἐστὶ τέτταρα, ἐν μὲν τὸ  
 προτάσεις λαβεῖν, δεύτερον δὲ ποσαχῶς ἕκαστον

<sup>1</sup> Omitting καὶ τῶν ἐπαγωγῶν with AB.



## TOPICA, I. XI-XIII

thus not from a desire to invent new terms, but that it might not escape us what differences actually exist between them.

It is not necessary to examine every problem and every thesis but only one about which doubt might be felt by the kind of person who requires to be argued with and does not need castigation or lack perception. For those who feel doubt whether or not the gods ought to be honoured and parents loved, need castigation, while those who doubt whether snow is white or not, lack perception. We ought not to discuss subjects the demonstration of which is too ready to hand or too remote ; for the former raise no difficulty, while the latter involve difficulties which are outside the scope of dialectical training.

XII. These definitions having been drawn up, we must distinguish how many kinds of dialectical argument there are. Now there is, firstly, induction, and, secondly, reasoning. What reasoning is has been already stated.<sup>a</sup> Induction is the progress from particulars to universals ; for example, " If the skilled pilot is the best pilot and the skilled charioteer the best charioteer, then, in general, the skilled man is the best man in any particular sphere." Induction is more convincing and clear and more easily grasped by sense-perception and is shared by the majority of people, but reasoning is more cogent and more efficacious against argumentative opponents.

XIII. Let the above, then, be the distinctions which we make in the kinds of things with which arguments are concerned and of which they consist. The means by which we shall obtain an abundance of reasonings are four in number : (1) the provision of propositions, (2) the ability to distinguish in how

Induction  
and  
Reasoning.

THE PRO-  
VISION OF  
ARGU-  
MENTS  
(I. 13-  
VII. 5).  
Four  
sources of  
Arguments.

105 a

25 λέγεται δύνασθαι διελεῖν, τρίτον τὰς διαφορὰς εὐ-  
 ρεῖν, τέταρτον δὲ ἢ τοῦ ὁμοίου σκέψις. ἔστι δὲ  
 τρόπον τινὰ καὶ τὰ τρία τούτων προτάσεις· ἔστι  
 γὰρ καθ' ἕκαστον αὐτῶν ποιῆσαι πρότασιν, οἷον  
 ὅτι αἰρετόν ἐστι τὸ καλὸν ἢ τὸ ἡδὺ ἢ τὸ συμφέρον,  
 καὶ ὅτι διαφέρει αἴσθησις ἐπιστήμης τῷ τὴν μὲν  
 30 ἀποβαλόντι δυνατόν εἶναι πάλιν λαβεῖν, τὴν δ'  
 ἀδύνατον, καὶ ὅτι ὁμοίως ἔχει τὸ ὑγιεινὸν πρὸς  
 ὑγίειαν καὶ τὸ εὐεκτικὸν πρὸς εὐεξίαν. ἔστι δ' ἢ  
 μὲν πρώτη πρότασις ἀπὸ τοῦ πολλαχῶς λεγομένου,  
 ἢ δὲ δευτέρα ἀπὸ τῶν διαφορῶν, ἢ δὲ τρίτη ἀπὸ  
 τῶν ὁμοίων.

XIV. Τὰς μὲν οὖν προτάσεις ἐκλεκτέον ὅσαχῶς  
 35 διωρίσθη περὶ προτάσεως, ἢ τὰς πάντων δόξας προ-  
 χειριζόμενον ἢ τὰς τῶν πλείστων ἢ τὰς τῶν σοφῶν,  
 καὶ τούτων ἢ πάντων ἢ τῶν πλείστων ἢ τῶν γνω-  
 105 b ριμωτάτων, ἢ τὰς ἐναντίας ταῖς φαινομέναις, καὶ  
 ὅσαι δόξαι κατὰ τέχνας εἰσίν. δεῖ δὲ προτείνειν  
 καὶ τὰς ἐναντίας ταῖς φαινομέναις ἐνδόξοις κατ'  
 ἀντίφασιν, καθάπερ εἴρηται πρότερον. χρήσιμον δὲ  
 καὶ τὸ ποιεῖν αὐτὰς ἐν τῷ ἐκλέγειν μὴ μόνον τὰς  
 5 οὔσας ἐνδόξους, ἀλλὰ καὶ τὰς ὁμοίας ταύταις, οἷον  
 ὅτι τῶν ἐναντίων ἢ αὐτὴ αἴσθησις (καὶ γὰρ ἢ ἐπι-  
 στήμη) καὶ ὅτι ὁρῶμεν εἰσδεχόμενοί τι, οὐκ ἐκ-  
 πέμποντες· καὶ γὰρ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων αἰσθήσεων  
 οὕτως· ἀκούομέν τε γὰρ εἰσδεχόμενοί τι, οὐκ ἐκ-  
 πέμποντες, καὶ γενομέθα ὡσαύτως. ὁμοίως δὲ

many senses a particular expression is used, (3) the discovery of differences and (4) the investigation of similarities. The last three of these are also in a sense propositions ; for it is possible to make a proposition in accordance with each of them. For example, we can say (a) " An object of choice is the honourable or the pleasant or the expedient," (b) " Sensation differs from knowledge, because it is possible to recover the latter when one has lost it but not the former," and (c) " The healthy stands in the same relation to health as the sound to soundness." The first proposition is derived from the use of a word in several senses, the second from differences, and the third from similarities.

XIV. The number of ways in which the propositions must be selected is the same as the number of distinctions which we have made regarding propositions. One may choose either universal opinions, or those of the majority, or those of the wise—of all of them, or of the majority or of the most famous—or opinions contrary to those which appear to be generally held, and also opinions which are in accord with the arts. Propositions must also be formed from opinions contrary to those which appear to be generally accepted put into a contradictory form, as has been described before.<sup>a</sup> Another useful method of forming them is by choosing not only opinions actually received but also opinions which resemble these, for example, " The perception of contraries is the same " (for the knowledge of them is also the same), and " We see by admitting, not by emitting, something " (for this is also true in respect of the other senses) ; for we hear by admitting, not by emitting something, and we taste in the same

How to  
secure pro-  
positions.

105 b

10 καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων. ἔτι ὅσα ἐπὶ πάντων ἢ τῶν  
 πλείστων φαίνεται, ληπτέον ὡς ἀρχὴν καὶ δοκοῦσαν  
 θέσιν· τιθέασι γὰρ οἱ μὴ συνορῶντες ἐπὶ τινος οὐχ  
 οὕτως ἔχειν.<sup>1</sup> ἐκλέγειν δὲ χρὴ καὶ ἐκ τῶν γεγραμ-  
 μένων λόγων, τὰς δὲ διαγραφὰς ποιεῖσθαι περὶ  
 15 ἐκάστου γένους ὑποτιθέντας χωρίς, οἷον περὶ ἀγα-  
 θοῦ ἢ περὶ ζώου καὶ περὶ ἀγαθοῦ παντός, ἀρξά-  
 μενον ἀπὸ τοῦ τί ἐστιν. παρασημαίνεσθαι δὲ καὶ  
 τὰς ἐκάστων δόξας, οἷον ὅτι Ἐμπεδοκλῆς τέτταρα  
 ἔφησε τῶν σωμάτων στοιχεῖα εἶναι· θεΐη γὰρ ἂν τις  
 τὸ ὑπὸ τινος εἰρημένον ἐνδόξου.

Ἔστι δ' ὡς τύπῳ περιλαβεῖν τῶν προτάσεων καὶ  
 20 τῶν προβλημάτων μέρη τρία. αἱ μὲν γὰρ ἠθικαὶ  
 προτάσεις εἰσὶν, αἱ δὲ φυσικαί, αἱ δὲ λογικαί.  
 ἠθικαὶ μὲν οὖν αἱ τοιαῦται, οἷον πότερον δεῖ τοῖς  
 γονεῦσι μᾶλλον ἢ τοῖς νόμοις πειθαρχεῖν, ἐὰν δια-  
 φωνῶσιν· λογικαὶ δὲ οἷον πότερον τῶν ἐναντίων ἢ  
 25 αὐτὴ ἐπιστήμη ἢ οὐ· φυσικαὶ δὲ οἷον πότερον ὁ  
 κόσμος αἰδίδιος ἢ οὐ· ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ τὰ προβλήματα.  
 ποῖαι δ' ἕκασται τῶν προειρημένων, ὀρισμῶ μὲν  
 οὐκ εὐπετὲς ἀποδοῦναι περὶ αὐτῶν, τῇ δὲ διὰ τῆς  
 ἐπαγωγῆς συνηθεία πειρατέον γνωρίζειν ἐκάστην  
 αὐτῶν, κατὰ τὰ προειρημένα παραδείγματα ἐπι-  
 σκοποῦντα.

30 Πρὸς μὲν οὖν φιλοσοφίαν κατ' ἀλήθειαν περὶ  
 αὐτῶν πραγματευτέον, διαλεκτικῶς δὲ πρὸς δόξαν.  
 ληπτέον δ' ὅτι μάλιστα καθόλου πάσας τὰς προ-  
 τάσεις, καὶ τὴν μίαν πολλὰς ποιητέον, οἷον ὅτι τῶν  
 ἀντικειμένων ἢ αὐτὴ ἐπιστήμη, εἴθ' ὅτι τῶν ἐναν-

<sup>1</sup> Reading οὕτως ἔχειν with C. ἔχειν is omitted by the other mss.



manner. And so with the other instances. Further, opinions which are apparently true in all or most cases must be taken as a starting-point and an accepted thesis ; for they are admitted by such as do not notice that there is a case in which they are not true. We ought also to select from written disquisitions and make up descriptions of each class of subject, putting them in separate lists, for example, about ' the good ' (or about ' animal life '), dealing with every kind of good, beginning with the essence. We ought also to note in passing the opinion of individuals, for example, that Empedocles said that the elements of bodies are four in number ; for one may accept the statement of some thinker of repute.

To put the matter briefly, there are three classes of propositions and problems. Some are ethical, some physical and some logical propositions. *Ethical* propositions are such propositions as " Should one rather obey parents or the laws, if they are at variance ? " *Logical* propositions are such as the following : " Is knowledge of contraries the same or not ? " *Physical* problems are of the type of " Is the universe eternal or not ? " There are similar classes of problems. The nature of each of the above classes is not easily explained by definition, but we must try to obtain knowledge of each of them by the habitual practice of induction, examining them in the light of the above examples.

Ethical,  
logical and  
physical  
proposi-  
tions and  
problems.

For philosophic purposes we must deal with propositions from the point of view of truth, but for purposes of dialectic, with a view to opinion. Propositions must always be taken in their most universal form, and the one should be made into many ; for example, " The knowledge of opposites is the same,"

105 b

τίων καὶ ὅτι τῶν πρὸς τι. τὸν αὐτὸν δὲ τρόπον  
 35 καὶ ταύτας πάλιν διαιρετέον, ἕως ἂν ἐνδέχεται δι-  
 αιρεῖν, οἷον ὅτι ἀγαθοῦ καὶ κακοῦ, καὶ λευκοῦ καὶ  
 μέλανος, καὶ ψυχροῦ καὶ θερμοῦ. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ  
 ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων.

106 a

XV. Περὶ μὲν οὖν προτάσεως ἱκανὰ τὰ προειρη-  
 μένα· τὸ δὲ ποσαχῶς, πραγματευτέον μὴ μόνον ὅσα  
 λέγεται καθ' ἕτερον τρόπον, ἀλλὰ καὶ τοὺς λόγους  
 αὐτῶν πειρατέον ἀποδιδόναι, οἷον μὴ μόνον ὅτι  
 5 ἀγαθὸν καθ' ἕτερον μὲν τρόπον λέγεται δικαιοσύνη  
 καὶ ἀνδρία, εὐεκτικὸν δὲ καὶ ὑγιεινὸν καθ' ἕτερον,  
 ἀλλ' ὅτι καὶ τὰ μὲν τῷ αὐτῷ ποιά τινα εἶναι, τὰ δὲ  
 τῷ ποιητικῷ τινος καὶ οὐ τῷ ποιά αὐτά τινα εἶναι.  
 ὡσαύτως δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων.

Πότερον δὲ πολλαχῶς ἢ μοναχῶς τῷ εἶδει λέ-  
 10 γεται, διὰ τῶνδε θεωρητέον. πρῶτον μὲν ἐπὶ τοῦ  
 ἐναντίου σκοπεῖν εἰ πολλαχῶς λέγεται, εἴαν τε τῷ  
 εἶδει εἴαν τε τῷ ὀνόματι διαφωνῇ. ἔνια γὰρ εὐθύς  
 καὶ τοῖς ὀνόμασιν ἕτερα ἔστιν, οἷον τῷ ὀξεί ἐν φωνῇ  
 μὲν ἐναντίον τὸ βαρὺ, ἐν ὄγκῳ δὲ τὸ ἀμβλύ. δῆλον  
 15 οὖν ὅτι τὸ ἐναντίον τῷ ὀξεί πολλαχῶς λέγεται. εἰ  
 δὲ τοῦτο, καὶ τὸ ὀξύ· καθ' ἑκάτερον γὰρ ἐκείνων

then "The knowledge of contraries is the same," and finally, "The knowledge of relative terms is the same." In the same way, those too must be divided again, as long as division is possible, for example, "the knowledge of good and evil," "of black and white," and "of cold and hot is the same"; and so with the other cases.

XV. On the making of propositions what has been said above must suffice. As regards the number of ways in which a term can be used, we must not only deal with those terms which are used in another way but also try to assign their definitions. For example, we must not only say that in one sense 'good' is said to be 'justice' and 'courage,' in another sense 'good' is said to be 'conducive to soundness' and 'conducive to health,' but we must also say that some things are called 'good' because they possess certain qualities in themselves, while other things are good because they are productive of a certain result and not because they possess certain qualities in themselves. And so likewise in the other cases also.

How to detect ambiguity of meaning.

Whether a term is used in one kind of sense only or in many, can be seen by the following method. First, examine the case of its contrary and see if it is used in several senses, whether the difference be one of kind or in the use of a word. For in some cases a difference is immediately apparent in the words used. For example, the contrary of 'sharp' when used of a note is 'flat' ( $\beta\alpha\rho\acute{\upsilon}$ ), when it is used of a material substance, it is 'dull' ( $\acute{\alpha}\mu\beta\lambda\acute{\upsilon}$ ). The contrary of 'sharp,' therefore, obviously has several meanings, and, this being so, so also has 'sharp'; for the contrary will have different mean-

(a) From contraries expressed in different words.

106 a

ἕτερον ἔσται τὸ ἐναντίον. οὐ γὰρ τὸ αὐτὸ ὀξύ  
 ἔσται τῷ ἀμβλεῖ καὶ τῷ βαρεῖ ἐναντίον, ἑκατέρω  
 δὲ τὸ ὀξύ ἐναντίον. πάλιν τῷ βαρεῖ ἐν φωνῇ μὲν  
 τὸ ὀξύ ἐναντίον, ἐν ὄγκῳ δὲ τὸ κοῦφον, ὥστε πολ-  
 20 λαχῶς τὸ βαρὺ λέγεται, ἐπειδὴ καὶ τὸ ἐναντίον.  
 ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ τῷ καλῷ τῷ μὲν ἐπὶ τοῦ ζώου τὸ  
 αἰσχρόν, τῷ δ' ἐπὶ τῆς οἰκίας τὸ μοχθηρόν, ὥστε  
 ὁμώνυμον τὸ καλόν.

Ἐπ' ἐνίων δὲ τοῖς μὲν ὀνόμασιν οὐδαμῶς δια-  
 φωνεῖ, τῷ δ' εἶδει κατάδηλος ἐν αὐτοῖς εὐθέως ἢ  
 25 διαφορὰ ἐστίν, οἷον ἐπὶ τοῦ λευκοῦ καὶ μέλανος.  
 φωνὴ γὰρ λευκὴ καὶ μέλαινα λέγεται, ὁμοίως δὲ  
 καὶ χρῶμα. τοῖς μὲν οὖν ὀνόμασιν οὐδὲν διαφωνεῖ,  
 τῷ δ' εἶδει κατάδηλος ἐν αὐτοῖς εὐθέως ἢ διαφορὰ.  
 οὐ γὰρ ὁμοίως τό τε χρῶμα λευκὸν λέγεται καὶ ἡ  
 φωνή. δῆλον δὲ τοῦτο καὶ διὰ τῆς αἰσθήσεως· τῶν  
 30 γὰρ αὐτῶν τῷ εἶδει ἢ αὐτῇ αἴσθησις, τὸ δὲ λευκὸν  
 τὸ ἐπὶ τῆς φωνῆς καὶ τοῦ χρώματος οὐ τῇ αὐτῇ  
 αἰσθήσει κρίνομεν, ἀλλὰ τὸ μὲν ὄψει, τὸ δ' ἀκοῇ.  
 ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ τὸ ὀξύ καὶ τὸ ἀμβλὺ ἐν χυμοῖς καὶ  
 ἐν ὄγκοις· ἀλλὰ τὸ μὲν ἀφῆ, τὸ δὲ γεύσει. οὐδὲ  
 γὰρ ταῦτα διαφωνεῖ τοῖς ὀνόμασιν, οὗτ' ἐπ' αὐτῶν  
 35 οὗτ' ἐπὶ τῶν ἐναντίων· ἀμβλὺ γὰρ καὶ τὸ ἐναντίον  
 ἑκατέρω.

Ἐτι εἰ τῷ μὲν ἐστὶ τι ἐναντίον τῷ δ' ἀπλῶς  
 μηδέν, οἷον τῇ μὲν ἀπὸ τοῦ πίνειν ἡδονῇ ἢ ἀπὸ τοῦ  
 δυσην λύπη ἐναντίον, τῇ δ' ἀπὸ τοῦ θεωρεῖν ὅτι

<sup>a</sup> Lit. 'white' and 'black.'



ings, corresponding to each of those meanings. For 'sharp' will not be the same when it is the contrary of 'blunt' and when it is the contrary of 'flat,' though 'sharp' is the contrary in both cases. Again, the contrary of *βαρύ* ('flat,' 'heavy') applied to a note is 'sharp,' but applied to a material substance it is 'light'; so that *βαρύ* is used in many senses, since its contrary is also so used. Similarly also the contrary of 'beautiful' applied to a living creature is 'ugly,' but applied to a house, 'mean'; so that 'beautiful' is an equivocal term.

Sometimes there is no difference in the terms used but the variation in kind is immediately obvious in their use; for example, in the case of 'clear' and 'dim,'<sup>a</sup> for sound is said to be 'clear' and 'dim' and so is colour. Now there is no difference in the terms used, but the variation in kind is immediately obvious in their use; for 'clear' is not used in the same sense as applied to colour and as applied to sound. This is manifest also through sense-perception; for sense-perception of things which are of the same kind is the same, but we do not judge 'clearness' of sound and of colour by the same sense, but the latter by sight and the former by hearing. Similarly with regard to 'sharp' and 'dull' in flavours and in material substances; we judge the latter by touch, the former by taste. Here, too, there is no difference in the terms used—either in the terms themselves or in their contraries; for 'dull' is the contrary of 'sharp' in both its senses.

Furthermore, we must see whether there is a contrary of a term in one sense, but absolutely none in another sense. For example, the pleasure due to drinking has a contrary in the pain due to thirst,

(b) From contraries different in kind.

(c) From the presence or absence of contraries.

106 b ἡ διάμετρος τῇ πλευρᾷ ἀσύμμετρος οὐδέν, ὥστε  
 πλεοναχῶς ἢ ἡδονὴ λέγεται. καὶ τῷ μὲν κατὰ τὴν  
 διάνοιαν φιλεῖν τὸ μισεῖν ἐναντίον, τῷ δὲ κατὰ τὴν  
 σωματικὴν ἐνέργειαν οὐδέν· δηλὸν οὖν ὅτι τὸ φιλεῖν  
 ὁμώνυμον. ἔτι ἐπὶ τῶν ἀνὰ μέσον, εἰ τῶν μὲν  
 5 ἐστὶ τι ἀνὰ μέσον, τῶν δὲ μηδέν, ἢ εἰ ἀμφοῖν μὲν  
 ἐστι, μὴ ταὐτὸν δέ, οἷον λευκοῦ καὶ μέλανος ἐν  
 χρώμασι μὲν τὸ φαιόν, ἐν φωνῇ δ' οὐδέν, ἢ εἰ ἄρα,  
 τὸ σομφόν, καθάπερ τινὲς φασὶ σομφὴν φωνὴν ἀνὰ  
 μέσον εἶναι, ὥσθ' ὁμώνυμον τὸ λευκόν, ὁμοίως δὲ  
 10 καὶ τὸ μέλαν. ἔτι εἰ τῶν μὲν πλείω τὰ ἀνὰ μέσον,  
 τῶν δὲ ἓν, καθάπερ ἐπὶ τοῦ λευκοῦ καὶ μέλανος·  
 ἐπὶ μὲν γὰρ τῶν χρωμάτων πολλὰ τὰ ἀνὰ μέσον,  
 ἐπὶ δὲ τῆς φωνῆς ἓν τὸ σομφόν.

Πάλιν ἐπὶ τοῦ κατ' ἀντίφασιν ἀντικειμένου σκο-  
 πεῖν εἰ πλεοναχῶς λέγεται. εἰ γὰρ τοῦτο πλεονα-  
 15 χως λέγεται, καὶ τὸ τούτῳ ἀντικείμενον πλεοναχῶς  
 ῥηθήσεται, οἷον τὸ μὴ βλέπειν πλεοναχῶς λέγεται,  
 ἐν μὲν τὸ μὴ ἔχειν ὄψιν, ἐν δὲ τὸ μὴ ἐνεργεῖν τῇ  
 ὄψει. εἰ δὲ τοῦτο πλεοναχῶς, ἀναγκαῖον καὶ τὸ  
 βλέπειν πλεοναχῶς λέγεσθαι· ἐκατέρῳ γὰρ τῷ μὴ  
 βλέπειν ἀντικείσεται τι, οἷον τῷ μὲν μὴ ἔχειν ὄψιν  
 20 τὸ ἔχειν, τῷ δὲ μὴ ἐνεργεῖν τῇ ὄψει τὸ ἐνεργεῖν.

but the pleasure due to the contemplation that the diagonal is incommensurate with the side has no contrary ; so that ' pleasure ' is used in more senses than one. Also ' loving,' used of the mental state, has a contrary in ' hating,' but, used of the physical act, it has no contrary ; therefore ' loving ' is obviously an equivocal term. Further, with regard to intermediates, you must see whether some meanings of terms and their contraries have intermediates and others none, or whether both have an intermediate but not the same one. For example, in colours the intermediate between ' clear ' (white) and ' dim ' (black) is ' grey,' but when the terms are used of a note, they have no intermediate, unless it be ' muffled,' as some people say that a muffled note is intermediate. Therefore ' clear ' is an equivocal term, as also is ' dim.' You must see also whether some terms have several intermediates, others only one, as in the case of ' clear ' and ' dim ' ; for when they are used of colour they have many intermediates, but when they are used of a note only one, namely, ' muffled.'

(d) From  
inter-  
mediates.

Again, with regard to the opposite put in a contradictory form, you must see whether it is used in more senses than one. For if it is used in several senses, then its opposite also will be used in several senses. For example, ' not to see ' is used in more than one sense, firstly, ' not to possess sight,' and, secondly, ' not to exercise the faculty of sight ' ; and if this has more than one meaning, ' to see ' must necessarily also have more than one meaning ; for each meaning of ' not to see ' will have an opposite, the opposite of ' not to possess sight ' being ' to possess sight,' and the opposite of ' not to exercise the faculty of sight ' being ' to exercise the faculty of sight.'

(e) From  
contradic-  
tory  
opposites.

106 b

"Ἐτι ἐπὶ τῶν κατὰ στέρησιν καὶ ἕξιν λεγομένων ἐπισκοπεῖν· εἰ γὰρ θάτερον πλεοναχῶς λέγεται, καὶ τὸ λοιπόν, οἷον εἰ τὸ αἰσθάνεσθαι πλεοναχῶς λέγεται κατὰ τε τὴν ψυχὴν καὶ τὸ σῶμα, καὶ τὸ  
 25 ἀναίσθητον εἶναι πλεοναχῶς ῥηθήσεται κατὰ τε τὴν ψυχὴν καὶ τὸ σῶμα. ὅτι δὲ κατὰ στέρησιν καὶ ἕξιν ἀντίκειται τὰ νῦν λεγόμενα, δῆλον, ἐπειδὴ πέφυκεν ἑκατέραν τῶν αἰσθήσεων ἔχειν τὰ ζῶα καὶ κατὰ τὴν ψυχὴν καὶ κατὰ τὸ σῶμα.

"Ἐτι δ' ἐπὶ τῶν πτώσεων ἐπισκεπτέον. εἰ γὰρ  
 30 τὸ δικαίως πλεοναχῶς λέγεται, καὶ τὸ δίκαιον πλεοναχῶς ῥηθήσεται· καθ' ἑκάτερον γὰρ τῶν δικαίως ἐστὶ δίκαιον, οἷον εἰ τὸ δικαίως λέγεται τό τε κατὰ τὴν ἑαυτοῦ γνώμην κρῖναι καὶ τὸ ὡς δεῖ, ὁμοίως καὶ τὸ δίκαιον. ὡσαύτως δὲ καὶ εἰ τὸ ὑγιεινὸν πλεοναχῶς, καὶ τὸ ὑγιεινῶς πλεοναχῶς  
 35 ῥηθήσεται, οἷον εἰ ὑγιεινὸν τὸ μὲν ὑγιείας ποιητικὸν τὸ δὲ φυλακτικὸν τὸ δὲ σημαντικόν, καὶ τὸ ὑγιεινῶς ἢ ποιητικῶς ἢ φυλακτικῶς ἢ σημαντικῶς ῥηθήσεται. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων,  
 107 a ὅταν αὐτὸ πλεοναχῶς λέγεται, καὶ ἡ πτώσις ἡ ἀπ' αὐτοῦ πλεοναχῶς ῥηθήσεται, καὶ εἰ ἡ πτώσις, καὶ αὐτό.

Σκοπεῖν δὲ καὶ τὰ γένη τῶν κατὰ τοῦνομα κατηγοριῶν, εἰ ταῦτά ἐστιν ἐπὶ πάντων. εἰ γὰρ  
 5 μὴ ταῦτά, δῆλον ὅτι ὁμώνυμον τὸ λεγόμενον, οἷον

<sup>a</sup> πτώσις is used of any modification of a word, such as cases and genders of nouns and adjectives, adjectives derived from nouns, adverbs formed from adjectives (as in the examples which Aristotle gives here), and the tenses of verbs.



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Further, you must examine cases where the privation and presence of some state is asserted ; for if either of the terms used has several meanings, so also will the other. For example, if ' to have sensation ' is used in several senses in connexion both with the soul and with the body, ' lacking sensation ' also will be used in several senses in connexion both with the soul and with the body. That the terms under discussion are opposed in respect of the privation and presence of a certain state is obvious, since living creatures naturally possess each kind of sensation, that is to say, as connected both with the soul and with the body.

(f) From the privation or presence of states.

Further, you must examine the inflected forms of words.<sup>a</sup> For if ' justly ' can be used in several senses, ' just ' will also be used in several senses ; for there is a meaning of ' just ' for each of the meanings of ' justly.' For example, if to judge ' justly ' means to judge ' according to one's opinion,' and also to judge ' as one ought,' then ' just ' will have the two similar meanings. Likewise if ' healthy ' has several meanings, so also will ' healthily ' ; for example, if ' healthy ' means ' producing health ' and ' preserving health ' and ' denoting health,' then ' healthily ' will mean ' in a manner which produces health ' or ' in a manner which preserves health ' or ' in a manner which denotes health.' Similarly in every other case, when the word itself is used in several senses, the inflexion formed from it will also be used in several senses, and *vice versa*.

(g) From inflected forms of words.

You must also examine the kinds of predicates denoted by the word used and see if they are the same in every case ; for, if they are not, it is obvious that the word is equivocal. For example, ' good ' as

(h) From the kinds of predicates denoted by a word.

107<sup>a</sup>

τὸ ἀγαθὸν ἐν ἐδέσματι μὲν τὸ ποιητικὸν ἡδονῆς, ἐν ἱατρικῇ δὲ τὸ ποιητικὸν ὑγείας, ἐπὶ δὲ ψυχῆς τὸ ποιὰν εἶναι, οἷον σώφρονα ἢ ἀνδρείαν ἢ δικαίαν· ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ ἀνθρώπων. ἐνιαχοῦ δὲ τὸ ποτέ,  
 10 οἷον τὸ ἐν τῷ καιρῷ [ἀγαθόν]<sup>1</sup>. ἀγαθὸν γὰρ λέγεται τὸ ἐν τῷ καιρῷ. πολλάκις δὲ τὸ ποσόν, οἷον ἐπὶ τοῦ μετρίου· λέγεται γὰρ καὶ τὸ μέτριον ἀγαθόν. ὥστε ὁμώνυμον τὸ ἀγαθόν. ὡσαύτως δὲ καὶ τὸ λευκὸν ἐπὶ σώματος μὲν χρῶμα, ἐπὶ δὲ φωνῆς τὸ εὐήκοον. παραπλησίως δὲ καὶ τὸ ὀξύ· οὐ γὰρ  
 15 ὡσαύτως ἐπὶ πάντων τὸ αὐτὸ λέγεται· φωνὴ μὲν γὰρ ὀξεῖα ἢ ταχεῖα, καθάπερ φασὶν οἱ κατὰ τοὺς ἀριθμοὺς ἀρμονικοί, γωνία δ' ὀξεῖα ἢ ἐλάσσων ὀρθῆς, μάχαιρα δὲ ἢ ὀξυγώνιος.

Σκοπεῖν δὲ καὶ τὰ γένη τῶν ὑπὸ τὸ αὐτὸ ὄνομα, εἰ ἕτερα καὶ μὴ ὑπ' ἄλληλα, οἷον ὄνος τό τε ζῶον  
 20 καὶ τὸ σκεῦος. ἕτερος γὰρ ὁ κατὰ τοῦνομα λόγος αὐτῶν· τὸ μὲν γὰρ ζῶον ποιόν τι ῥηθήσεται, τὸ δὲ σκεῦος ποιόν τι. εἰ δὲ ὑπ' ἄλληλα τὰ γένη ᾗ, οὐκ ἀναγκαῖον ἐτέρους τοὺς λόγους εἶναι. οἷον τοῦ κόρακος τὸ ζῶον καὶ τὸ ὄρνεον γένος ἐστίν. ὅταν οὖν λέγωμεν τὸν κόρακα ὄρνεον εἶναι,  
 25 καὶ ζῶον ποιόν τί φαμεν αὐτὸν εἶναι, ὥστ' ἀμφότερα τὰ γένη περὶ αὐτοῦ κατηγορεῖται. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ὅταν ζῶον πτηνὸν δίπουν τὸν κόρακα λέγωμεν, ὄρνεόν φαμεν αὐτὸν εἶναι· καὶ οὕτως οὖν ἀμφότερα τὰ γένη κατηγορεῖται κατὰ τοῦ κόρακος,

<sup>1</sup> Omitting the first ἀγαθόν with W. S. Maguinness.

<sup>a</sup> i.e. the windlass (Herod. vii. 36; [Aristot.] *Mech.* 853 b 12).

applied to food means 'productive of pleasure,' as applied to medicine it means 'productive of health,' as applied to the soul it denotes a certain quality such as 'temperate' or 'brave' or 'just,' and similarly also as applied to man. Sometimes it means what happens at a certain time, for example at the right time; for what happens at the right time is called 'good.' Often too it is applied to quantity, being used, for example, of that which is 'moderate'; for that which is 'moderate,' too, is called 'good.' Thus 'good' is an equivocal term. Similarly too λευκόν ('white,' 'clear') as applied to a body denotes colour, as applied to a note it means 'easily heard.' The case of 'sharp' also is similar, for it does not always bear the same meaning. For a quick note is 'sharp,' as the theorists of rhythmic harmony tell us, and an angle which is less than a right angle is 'sharp' (acute), and a knife with a sharp angle (edge) is 'sharp.'

You must also examine the genera of the things which fall under the same term and see if they are different and not subaltern. For example, ὄνος ('donkey') is both the animal and the machine<sup>a</sup>; for the definition applied to the word is different in the two cases, since one will be described as a kind of animal, the other as a kind of machine. But if the genera are subaltern, the definitions are not necessarily different. For example, 'animal' is the genus of 'raven,' and so is 'bird.' When, therefore, we say that the raven is a bird, we also say that it is a kind of animal, so that both the genera are predicated of it. Likewise too, when we call the raven 'a flying biped animal,' we are stating that it is a bird, so that in this way too both the genera are

(i) From an examination of the genera falling under the same term.

107 a καὶ ὁ λόγος αὐτῶν. ἐπὶ δὲ τῶν μὴ ὑπ' ἄλληλα  
30 γενῶν οὐ συμβαίνει τοῦτο· οὔτε γὰρ ὅταν σκευὸς  
λέγωμεν, ζῶον λέγομεν, οὔθ' ὅταν ζῶον, σκευὸς.

Σκοπεῖν δὲ μὴ μόνον εἰ τοῦ προκειμένου ἕτερα  
τὰ γένη καὶ μὴ ὑπ' ἄλληλα, ἀλλὰ καὶ ἐπὶ τοῦ  
ἐναντίου· εἰ γὰρ τὸ ἐναντίον πολλαχῶς λέγεται,  
35 δῆλον ὅτι καὶ τὸ προκείμενον.

Χρήσιμον δὲ καὶ τὸ ἐπὶ τὸν ὁρισμὸν ἐπιβλέπειν  
τὸν ἐκ τοῦ συντιθεμένου γινόμενον, οἷον λευκοῦ  
σώματος καὶ λευκῆς φωνῆς· ἀφαιρουμένου γὰρ  
τοῦ ἰδίου τὸν αὐτὸν λόγον δεῖ λείπεσθαι. τοῦτο  
107 b δ' οὐ συμβαίνει ἐπὶ τῶν ὁμωνύμων, οἷον ἐπὶ τῶν  
νῦν εἰρημένων. τὸ μὲν γὰρ ἔσται σῶμα τοιόνδε  
χρῶμα ἔχον, τὸ δὲ φωνὴ εὐήκοος· ἀφαιρεθέντος  
οὖν τοῦ σώματος καὶ τῆς φωνῆς οὐ ταῦτόν ἐν  
ἐκατέρῳ τὸ λειπόμενον. ἔδει δέ γε, εἴπερ συν-  
5 ὠνυμον ἦν τὸ λευκὸν τὸ ἐφ' ἐκατέρου λεγόμενον.

Πολλάκις δὲ καὶ ἐν αὐτοῖς τοῖς λόγοις λανθάνει  
παρακολουθοῦν τὸ ὁμώνυμον· διὸ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν  
λόγων σκεπτέον. οἷον ἂν τις τὸ σημαντικὸν καὶ  
τὸ<sup>1</sup> ποιητικὸν ὑγείας τὸ συμμέτρως ἔχον πρὸς  
10 ὑγίειαν φῇ εἶναι, οὐκ ἀποστατέον ἀλλ' ἐπισκεπτέον  
τί τὸ συμμέτρως καθ' ἐκάτερον εἴρηκεν, οἷον εἰ  
τὸ μὲν τὸ τοσοῦτον<sup>2</sup> εἶναι ὥστε ποιεῖν ὑγίειαν,  
τὸ δὲ τὸ τοιοῦτον οἷον σημαίνειν ποία τις ἢ ἕξις.

<sup>1</sup> Inserting τὸ with C.

<sup>2</sup> Reading τοσοῦτον with all the best mss.



predicated of the raven, and also their definition. This does not happen in the case of genera which are not subaltern; for when we say a 'machine' we do not mean an 'animal,' nor *vice versa*.

You must also examine not only whether the genera of the term in question are different without being subaltern but also look into the case of its contrary; for if its contrary is used in several senses, obviously the term in question will also be so used. (j) From the contrary of the genus used in several senses.

It is useful also to look at the definition which results from the use of the term in a composite phrase, for example, in λευκὸν σῶμα ('a white body') and λευκὴ φωνή ('a clear note'). For when what is peculiar is taken away, the same meaning ought to be left. But this does not happen when equivocal terms are used, as in the phrases just mentioned; for the former will be 'a body having such and such a colour' the latter 'a note which is easily heard.' If, therefore, 'a body' and 'a note' are taken away, what remains in each phrase is not the same. But it ought to have been the same if the term λευκός in each case had been synonymous. (k) From the definition of a term in a composite phrase.

Often too in the actual definitions the equivocal slips in unnoticed; therefore examination must be made of the definitions also. For example, if someone states that what denotes and what produces health are 'commensurably related to health,' we must not shrink from the task but examine what he has meant by 'commensurably' in each case, for example, whether in the latter case it means that it is 'of the requisite quantity to produce health,' whereas in the former case it means that it is 'of the requisite quality to denote of what kind the state is which is present.' (l) From ambiguity of definition.

107 b

Ἔτι εἰ μὴ συμβλητὰ κατὰ τὸ μᾶλλον ἢ ὁμοίως,  
οἷον λευκὴ φωνὴ καὶ λευκὸν ἱμάτιον καὶ ὀξύς  
15 χυμὸς καὶ ὀξεῖα φωνή· ταῦτα γὰρ οὐθ' ὁμοίως  
λέγεται λευκὰ ἢ ὀξεῖα, οὔτε μᾶλλον θάτερον. ὥσθ'  
ὁμώνυμον τὸ λευκὸν καὶ τὸ ὀξύ· τὸ γὰρ συνώνυμον  
πᾶν συμβλητόν· ἢ γὰρ ὁμοίως ῥηθήσεται, ἢ μᾶλλον  
θάτερον.

Ἐπεὶ δὲ τῶν ἐτέρων γενῶν καὶ μὴ ὑπ' ἄλληλα  
20 ἕτεραι τῷ εἶδει καὶ αἱ διαφοραί, οἷον ζῶου καὶ  
ἐπιστήμης (ἕτεραι γὰρ τούτων αἱ διαφοραί),  
σκοπεῖν εἰ τὰ ὑπὸ τὸ αὐτὸ ὄνομα ἐτέρων γενῶν  
καὶ μὴ ὑπ' ἄλληλα διαφοραί εἰσιν, οἷον τὸ ὀξύ  
φωνῆς καὶ ὄγκου· διαφέρει γὰρ φωνὴ φωνῆς τῷ  
ὀξεῖα εἶναι, ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ὄγκος ὄγκου. ὥστε  
25 ὁμώνυμον τὸ ὀξύ· ἐτέρων γὰρ γενῶν καὶ οὐχ ὑπ'  
ἄλληλα διαφοραί εἰσιν.

Πάλιν εἰ αὐτῶν τῶν ὑπὸ τὸ αὐτὸ ὄνομα ἕτεραι  
αἱ διαφοραί, οἷον χρώματος τοῦ τε ἐπὶ τῶν σω-  
μάτων καὶ τοῦ ἐν τοῖς μέλεσιν· τοῦ μὲν γὰρ ἐπὶ  
30 τῶν σωμάτων διακριτικὸν καὶ συγκριτικὸν ὄψεως,  
τοῦ δ' ἐπὶ τῶν μελῶν οὐχ αἱ αὐταὶ διαφοραί.  
ὥστε ὁμώνυμον τὸ χρῶμα· τῶν γὰρ αὐτῶν αἱ  
αὐταὶ διαφοραί.

Ἔτι ἐπεὶ τὸ εἶδος οὐδενός ἐστι διαφορά, σκοπεῖν

<sup>a</sup> Cf. *Met.* 1057 b 8; white is 'penetrative' and black 'compressive.' The definitions are Platonic, cf. *Tim.* 67 D, E.

Further, you must see whether the terms are not comparable in respect of greater or similar degree, for example, a 'clear' (λευκός) note and a 'white' (λευκός) garment, and a 'sharp' flavour and a 'sharp' note. For these things are not said to be λευκός ('white,' 'clear') or 'sharp' in a similar degree or one in a greater degree than the other; and so the terms λευκός and 'sharp' are equivocal. For every synonymous term is comparable; for it will be used either of a similar degree or of a greater degree in one thing than another.

(m) From a comparison in respect of degree.

Now since the differentiae of genera which are different but not subaltern are also different in kind, for example, those of 'animal' and 'knowledge' (for the differentiae of these are different), you must see whether the meanings which fall under the same term are differentiae of genera which are different without being subaltern, for example 'sharp' as applied to a note and to a solid substance; for voice differs from voice in 'sharpness' and similarly too one solid substance from another. 'Sharp,' therefore, is an equivocal term; for its meanings are differentiae of genera which are different without being subaltern.

(n) From an examination of the differentiae.

Again, you must see whether the differentiae of the actual meanings which fall under the same term are different, for example, those of colour in bodies and colour in tunes; for the differentiae of colour in bodies are 'penetrative of sight' and 'compressive of sight,'<sup>a</sup> but the same differentiae do not hold good of colour in tunes. Therefore colour is an equivocal term; for when things are the same they have the same differentiae.

Further, since the species is never the differentia

107 b

τῶν ὑπὸ τὸ αὐτὸ ὄνομα εἰ τὸ μὲν εἶδος ἐστὶ τὸ δὲ  
 35 διαφορά, οἷον τὸ λευκὸν τὸ μὲν ἐπὶ τοῦ σώματος  
 εἶδος χρώματος, τὸ δ' ἐπὶ τῆς φωνῆς διαφορά·  
 διαφέρει γὰρ φωνὴ φωνῆς τῷ λευκῇ εἶναι.

XVI. Περὶ μὲν οὖν τοῦ πολλαχῶς διὰ τούτων  
 καὶ τῶν τοιούτων σκεπτέον· τὰς δὲ διαφοράς ἐν  
 108 a αὐτοῖς τε τοῖς γένεσι πρὸς ἄλληλα θεωρητέον, οἷον  
 τίνι διαφέρει δικαιοσύνη ἀνδρίας καὶ φρόνησις  
 σωφροσύνης (ταῦτα γὰρ ἅπαντα ἐκ τοῦ αὐτοῦ  
 γένους ἐστίν), καὶ ἐξ ἄλλου πρὸς ἄλλο τῶν μὴ  
 πολὺ λίαν διεστηκότων, οἷον τίνι αἴσθησις ἐπι-  
 5 στήμης· ἐπὶ μὲν γὰρ τῶν πολὺ διεστηκότων  
 κατάδηλοι παντελῶς αἱ διαφοραί.

XVII. Τὴν δὲ ὁμοιότητα σκεπτέον ἐπὶ τε τῶν  
 ἐν ἐτέροις γένεσιν, ὡς ἕτερον πρὸς ἕτερόν τι,  
 οὕτως ἄλλο πρὸς ἄλλο, οἷον ὡς ἐπιστήμη πρὸς  
 10 ἐπιστητόν, οὕτως αἴσθησις πρὸς αἰσθητόν· καὶ ὡς  
 ἕτερον ἐν ἐτέρῳ τινί, οὕτως ἄλλο ἐν ἄλλῳ, οἷον  
 ὡς ὄψις ἐν ὀφθαλμῷ, νοῦς ἐν ψυχῇ, καὶ ὡς γαλήνη  
 ἐν θαλάσσῃ, νηνεμία ἐν ἀέρι· μάλιστα δ' ἐν τοῖς  
 πολὺ διεστῶσι γυμνάζεσθαι δεῖ· ῥᾶον γὰρ ἐπὶ τῶν  
 λοιπῶν δυνησόμεθα τὰ ὅμοια συννοᾶν· σκεπτέον  
 15 δὲ καὶ τὰ ἐν τῷ αὐτῷ γένει ὄντα, εἴ τι ἅπασιν  
 ὑπάρχει ταυτόν, οἷον ἀνθρώπῳ καὶ ἵππῳ καὶ κυνί·  
 ἢ γὰρ ὑπάρχει τι αὐτοῖς ταυτόν, ταύτῃ ὅμοιά  
 ἐστίν.



of anything, you must look whether one of the meanings which fall under the same term is a species and another a differentia, for example, λευκός ('white,' 'clear') when applied to a body is a species of colour, but when applied to a note it is a differentia, for one note differs from another in being clear.

XVI. The number of meanings, then, of a term must be examined by these and similar methods. The differences must be viewed in their relation with one another both in the genera themselves—for example, "In what does justice differ from courage and wisdom from temperance?" (for all these belong to the same genus)—and also from one genus to another, where they are not too widely separated—for example, "In what does sensation differ from knowledge?"—for where the genera are widely separated, the differences are quite obvious.

XVII. Likeness must be examined in things belonging to different genera—as A is to B, so is C to D (for example, 'As knowledge is related to the object of knowledge, so is sensation related to the object of sensation'), and also, as A is in B, so is C in D (for example, 'As sight is in the eye, so is reason in the soul' and 'As is calm in the sea, so is absence of wind in the air'). In particular we must have practice in dealing with genera which are widely separated; for in the other cases we shall be able to detect the similarities more readily. We must examine also things which are in the same genus, to see if there is any attribute belonging to them all which is the same, for example, to a man, a horse and a dog; for they are alike in as far as any attribute which they possess is the same.

How to note differences.

How to note resemblances.

108 a

XVIII. Χρήσιμον δὲ τὸ μὲν ποσαχῶς λέγεται  
 ἐπεσκέφθαι πρὸς τε τὸ σαφές (μᾶλλον γὰρ ἂν τις  
 20 εἰδεῖν τί τίθῃσιν, ἐμφανισθέντος ποσαχῶς λέγεται)  
 καὶ πρὸς τὸ γίνεσθαι κατ' αὐτὸ τὸ πρᾶγμα καὶ  
 μὴ πρὸς τοῦνομα τοὺς συλλογισμούς. ἀδήλου γὰρ  
 ὄντος ποσαχῶς λέγεται, ἐνδέχεται μὴ ἐπὶ ταῦτόν  
 τόν τε ἀποκρινόμενον καὶ τὸν ἐρωτῶντα φέρειν  
 τὴν διάνοιαν· ἐμφανισθέντος δὲ ποσαχῶς λέγεται  
 25 καὶ ἐπὶ τί φέρων τίθῃσι, γελοῖος ἂν φαίνοιτο ὁ  
 ἐρωτῶν, εἰ μὴ πρὸς τοῦτο τὸν λόγον ποιοῖτο.  
 χρήσιμον δὲ καὶ πρὸς τὸ μὴ παραλογισθῆναι καὶ  
 πρὸς τὸ παραλογίσασθαι. εἰδότες γὰρ ποσαχῶς  
 λέγεται οὐ μὴ παραλογισθῶμεν, ἀλλ' εἰδήσομεν  
 ἂν μὴ πρὸς ταῦτό τὸν λόγον ποιῇται ὁ ἐρωτῶν·  
 30 αὐτοὶ τε ἐρωτῶντες δυνησόμεθα παραλογίσασθαι,  
 ἂν μὴ τυγχάνῃ εἰδῶς ὁ ἀποκρινόμενος ποσαχῶς  
 λέγεται. τοῦτο δ' οὐκ ἐπὶ πάντων δυνατόν, ἀλλ'  
 ὅταν ἢ τῶν πολλαχῶς λεγομένων τὰ μὲν ἀληθῆ  
 τὰ δὲ ψευδῆ. ἔστι δὲ οὐκ οἰκείος ὁ τρόπος οὗτος  
 τῆς διαλεκτικῆς· διὸ παντελῶς εὐλαβητέον τοῖς  
 35 διαλεκτικοῖς τὸ τοιοῦτον, τὸ πρὸς τοῦνομα διαλέ-  
 γεσθαι, ἂν μὴ τις ἄλλως ἐξαδυνατῇ περὶ τοῦ  
 προκειμένου διαλέγεσθαι.

Τὸ δὲ τὰς διαφορὰς εὑρεῖν χρήσιμον πρὸς τε  
 τοὺς συλλογισμούς τοὺς περὶ ταῦτου καὶ ἑτέρου  
 108 b καὶ πρὸς τὸ γνωρίζειν τί ἕκαστόν ἐστιν· ὅτι μὲν  
 οὖν πρὸς τοὺς συλλογισμούς τοὺς περὶ ταῦτου καὶ

## TOPICA, I. XVIII

XVIII. It is useful to have examined the various meanings of a term both with a view to clarity (for a man would know better what he is stating if the various senses in which it can be used had been made clear), and also in order that his reasonings may be directed to the actual thing and not to the name by which it is called. For if the various ways in which a term can be used are not clear, it is possible that the answerer and the questioner are not applying their mind to the same thing; whereas, if it has been made clear what are the various ways in which a term can be used and to which of them the answerer is referring in his statement, the questioner would look absurd if he did not direct his argument to this. It is also useful so that one may not be misled and that one may mislead others by false reasoning. For if we know the various senses in which a term can be used, we shall never be misled by false reasoning, but we shall be aware of it if the questioner fails to direct his argument to the same point, and we shall ourselves, when we are asking questions, be able to mislead the answerer, if he does not happen to know the various meanings of a term. This, however, is not always possible but only when some of the various meanings are true and others false. This kind of argument, however, is not a proper part of dialectic; therefore, dialecticians must be very much on their guard against such verbal discussion, unless it is quite impossible to discuss the subject otherwise.

The discovery of differences is useful both for reasonings about sameness and difference, and also for the recognition of what some particular thing is. Its usefulness for reasonings about sameness and

Utility of  
the detec-  
tion of am-  
biguity.

Utility of  
the dis-  
covery of  
differences.

108 b

ἑτέρου χρήσιμον, δῆλον· εὐρόντες γὰρ διαφορὰν  
 τῶν προκειμένων ὁποιοῦν δεδειχότες ἐσόμεθα  
 ὅτι οὐ ταυτόν· πρὸς δὲ τὸ γνωρίζειν τί ἐστι, διότι  
 5 τὸν ἴδιον τῆς οὐσίας ἐκάστου λόγον ταῖς περὶ  
 ἑκαστον οἰκείαις διαφοραῖς χωρίζειν εἰώθαμεν.

Ἡ δὲ τοῦ ὁμοίου θεωρία χρήσιμος πρὸς τε τοὺς  
 ἐπακτικούς λόγους καὶ πρὸς τοὺς ἐξ ὑποθέσεως  
 συλλογισμοὺς καὶ πρὸς τὴν ἀπόδοσιν τῶν ὀρισμῶν.  
 10 πρὸς μὲν οὖν τοὺς ἐπακτικούς λόγους, διότι τῇ  
 καθ' ἑκάστα ἐπὶ τῶν ὁμοίων ἐπαγωγῇ τὸ καθόλου  
 ἀξιούμεν ἐπάγειν· οὐ γὰρ ῥαδίον ἐστὶν ἐπάγειν  
 μὴ εἰδότας τὰ ὅμοια. πρὸς δὲ τοὺς ἐξ ὑποθέσεως  
 συλλογισμοὺς, διότι ἔνδοξόν ἐστιν, ὥς ποτε ἐφ'  
 ἑνὸς τῶν ὁμοίων ἔχει, οὕτως καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν λοιπῶν.  
 15 ὥστε πρὸς ὃ τι ἂν αὐτῶν εὐπορώμεν διαλέγεσθαι,  
 προδιομολογησόμεθα, ὥς ποτε ἐπὶ τούτων ἔχει,  
 οὕτω καὶ ἐπὶ τοῦ προκειμένου ἔχειν. δείξαντες  
 δὲ ἐκείνο καὶ τὸ προκείμενον ἐξ ὑποθέσεως δεδει-  
 χότες ἐσόμεθα· ὑποθέμενοι γάρ, ὥς ποτε ἐπὶ τού-  
 των ἔχει, οὕτω καὶ ἐπὶ τοῦ προκειμένου ἔχειν,  
 τὴν ἀπόδειξιν πεποιήμεθα. πρὸς δὲ τὴν τῶν  
 20 ὀρισμῶν ἀπόδοσιν, διότι δυνάμενοι συνορᾶν τί ἐν  
 ἐκάστῳ ταυτόν, οὐκ ἀπορήσομεν εἰς τί δεῖ γένος  
 ὀριζομένους τὸ προκείμενον τιθέναί· τῶν γὰρ κοι-  
 νῶν τὸ μάλιστα ἐν τῷ τί ἐστι κατηγορούμενον  
 326



## TOPICA, I. XVIII

difference is obvious ; for when we have discovered a difference of some kind or other between the subjects under discussion, we shall have shown that they are not the same. It is useful for recognizing what some particular thing is, because we usually isolate the appropriate description of the essence of a particular thing by means of the differentiae which are peculiar to it.

The consideration of similarity is useful both for inductive arguments and for hypothetical reasoning and also for the assignment of definitions. For inductive reasoning it is useful because we maintain that it is by induction of particulars on the basis of similarities that we infer the universal ; for it is not easy to employ inference if we do not know the points of similarity. It is useful for hypothetical reasoning, because it is an accepted opinion that whatever holds good of one of several similars, holds good also of the rest. Therefore, if we have the proper material for discussing any one of them, we shall secure beforehand an admission that what holds good of other similars also holds good of the subject under discussion, and, having demonstrated the former, we shall have also demonstrated, on the basis of the hypothesis, the subject under discussion ; for we shall have completed our demonstration by the hypothetical assumption that whatever holds good of other similars holds good also of the subject under discussion. It is useful for the assignment of definitions because, if we can see what is identical in each particular case, we shall have no doubt about the genus in which we must place the subject under discussion when we are defining it ; for, of the common predicates, that which falls most definitely

Utility of  
the dis-  
covery of  
similarities.

108 b

γένος ἂν εἴη· ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐν τοῖς πολὺν διεστῶσι  
 χρήσιμος πρὸς τοὺς ὁρισμοὺς ἢ τοῦ ὁμοίου θεωρία,  
 25 οἷον ὅτι ταῦτόν· γαλήνη μὲν ἐν θαλάσσῃ, νηνεμία  
 δ' ἐν αέρι (ἐκάτερον γὰρ ἡσυχία), καὶ ὅτι στιγμή  
 ἐν γραμμῇ καὶ μονὰς ἐν ἀριθμῷ· ἐκάτερον γὰρ  
 ἀρχή· ὥστε τὸ κοινὸν ἐπὶ πάντων γένος ἀποδι-  
 δόντες δόξομεν οὐκ ἀλλοτρίως ὀρίζεσθαι. σχεδὸν  
 δὲ καὶ οἱ ὀριζόμενοι οὕτως εἰώθασιν ἀποδιδόναι·  
 30 τήν τε γὰρ μονάδα ἀρχὴν ἀριθμοῦ φασὶν εἶναι καὶ  
 τὴν στιγμήν ἀρχὴν γραμμῆς. δῆλον οὖν ὅτι εἰς  
 τὸ κοινὸν ἀμφοτέρων γένος τιθέασιν.

Τὰ μὲν οὖν ὄργανα δι' ὧν οἱ συλλογισμοὶ ταῦτ'  
 ἐστίν· οἱ δὲ τόποι πρὸς οὓς χρήσιμα τὰ λεχθέντα  
 οἶδε εἰσίν.

## TOPICA, I. xviii

in the category of essence must be the genus. Likewise also the consideration of similarity is useful for the forming of definitions in dealing with widely separated subjects, for example, the statements that "calm at sea and absence of wind in the air are the same thing" (for each is a state of quiet), and that "a point on a line and a unit in number are the same thing" (for each is a starting-point). Thus, if we assign as the genus that which is common to all the cases, our definition will not be regarded as unsuitable. Those who deal in definitions usually form them on this principle; for they say that the unit is the starting-point of number and the point the starting-point of a line; it is obvious, therefore, that they assign genus to that which is common to both.

Such, then, are the means by which reasonings are carried out. The commonplaces for the application of which the said means are useful are our next subject.

# B

108 b 34 I. Ἔστι δὲ τῶν προβλημάτων τὰ μὲν καθόλου  
 35 τὰ δ' ἐπὶ μέρους. καθόλου μὲν οὖν οἶον ὅτι πᾶσα  
 ἡδονὴ ἀγαθὸν καὶ ὅτι οὐδεμία ἡδονὴ ἀγαθόν, ἐπὶ  
 109 a μέρους δὲ οἶον ὅτι ἔστι τις ἡδονὴ ἀγαθὸν καὶ ὅτι  
 ἔστι τις ἡδονὴ οὐκ ἀγαθόν. ἔστι δὲ πρὸς ἀμφοτέρω  
 τὰ γένη τῶν προβλημάτων κοινὰ τὰ καθόλου  
 κατασκευαστικὰ καὶ ἀνασκευαστικά· δείξαντες  
 γὰρ ὅτι παντὶ ὑπάρχει, καὶ ὅτι τινὶ ὑπάρχει δε-  
 5 δειχότες ἐσόμεθα. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ὅτι οὐδενὶ  
 ὑπάρχει δείξωμεν, καὶ ὅτι οὐ παντὶ ὑπάρχει δεδει-  
 χότες ἐσόμεθα. πρῶτον οὖν περὶ τῶν καθόλου  
 ἀνασκευαστικῶν ῥητέον διὰ τε τὸ κοινὰ εἶναι τὰ  
 τοιαῦτα πρὸς τὰ καθόλου καὶ τὰ ἐπὶ μέρους, καὶ  
 διὰ τὸ μᾶλλον τὰς θέσεις κομίζειν ἐν τῷ ὑπάρχειν  
 10 ἢ μὴ, τοὺς δὲ διαλεγομένους ἀνασκευάζειν. ἔστι  
 δὲ χαλεπώτατον τὸ ἀντιστρέφειν τὴν ἀπὸ τοῦ  
 συμβεβηκότος οἰκείαν ὀνομασίαν· τὸ γὰρ πῇ καὶ  
 μὴ καθόλου ἐπὶ μόνων ἐνδέχεται τῶν συμβεβη-  
 κότων. ἀπὸ μὲν γὰρ τοῦ ὅρου καὶ τοῦ ἰδίου καὶ  
 τοῦ γένους ἀναγκαῖον ἀντιστρέφειν, οἶον εἰ ὑπάρχει  
 15 τινὶ ζῳῷ πεζῷ δίποδι εἶναι, ἀντιστρέψαντι ἀληθὲς  
 ἔσται λέγειν ὅτι ζῶον πεζὸν δίπουν ἐστίν. ὁμοίως



## BOOK II

I. SOME problems are universal, others particular. Examples of universal problems are "Every pleasure is good," and "No pleasure is good"; examples of particular problems are "Some pleasure is good," and "Some pleasure is not good." Universally constructive and destructive methods are common to both kinds of problem; for when we have shown that some predicate belongs in all instances, we shall also have shown that it belongs in some particular instance, and, similarly, if we show that it does not belong in any instance, we shall also have shown that it does not belong in every instance. First, then, we must speak of universally destructive methods, because such methods are common both to universal and to particular problems and because people bring forward theses asserting the presence of a predicate rather than its absence, while those who are arguing against them seek to demolish them. It is very difficult to convert an appropriate appellation which is derived from an 'accident'; for only in the case of accidents can something be predicated conditionally and not universally. For conversion must necessarily be based on the definition and the property and the genus. For example, if "to be a biped pedestrian animal is an attribute of A," it will be true to say by conversion that "A is a biped pedestrian animal."

COMMON-  
PLACES  
ABOUT  
PREDICA-  
TIONS. (A)  
OF ACCI-  
DENT.  
Problems,  
universal  
and  
particular.

Peculiar  
difficulties  
of problems  
based on  
accident.

109<sup>a</sup>

δὲ καὶ ἀπὸ τοῦ γένους· εἰ γὰρ ζῶν ὑπάρχει τινὲ  
 εἶναι, ζῶόν ἐστιν. τὰ δ' αὐτὰ καὶ ἐπὶ τοῦ ἰδίου·  
 εἰ γὰρ ὑπάρχει τινὲ γραμματικῆς δεκτικῶ εἶναι,  
 γραμματικῆς δεκτικὸν ἔσται. οὐδὲν γὰρ τούτων  
 20 ἐνδέχεται κατὰ τι ὑπάρχειν ἢ μὴ ὑπάρχειν, ἀλλ'  
 ἀπλῶς ἢ ὑπάρχειν ἢ μὴ ὑπάρχειν. ἐπὶ δὲ τῶν  
 συμβεβηκότων οὐδὲν κωλύει κατὰ τι ὑπάρχειν,  
 οἷον λευκότητα ἢ δικαιοσύνην, ὥστε οὐκ ἀπόχρη  
 τὸ δεῖξαι ὅτι ὑπάρχει λευκότης ἢ δικαιοσύνη πρὸς  
 τὸ δεῖξαι ὅτι λευκὸς ἢ δίκαιός ἐστιν· ἔχει γὰρ  
 25 ἀμφισβήτησιν ὅτι κατὰ τι λευκὸς ἢ δίκαιός ἐστιν.  
 ὥστ' οὐκ ἀναγκαῖον ἐπὶ τῶν συμβεβηκότων τὸ  
 ἀντιστρέφειν.

Διορίσασθαι δὲ δεῖ καὶ τὰς ἀμαρτίας τὰς ἐν τοῖς  
 προβλήμασιν, ὅτι εἰσὶ διτταί, ἢ τῷ ψεύδεσθαι ἢ  
 τῷ παραβαίνειν τὴν κειμένην λέξιν. οἱ τε γὰρ  
 30 ψευδόμενοι καὶ τὸ μὴ ὑπάρχον ὑπάρχειν τινὲ λέ-  
 γοντες ἀμαρτάνουσι· καὶ οἱ τοῖς ἄλλοτρίοις ὀνόμασι  
 τὰ πράγματα προσαγορεύοντες, οἷον τὴν πλάτανον  
 ἄνθρωπον, παραβαίνουσι τὴν κειμένην ὀνομασίαν.

II. Εἰς μὲν δὴ τόπος τὸ ἐπιβλέπειν εἰ τὸ κατ'  
 35 ἄλλον τινὰ τρόπον ὑπάρχον ὡς συμβεβηκὸς ἀπο-  
 δέδωκεν. ἀμαρτάνεται δὲ μάλιστα τοῦτο περὶ τὰ  
 γένη, οἷον εἴ τις τῷ λευκῷ φαίη συμβεβηκέναι χρώ-  
 ματι εἶναι· οὐ γὰρ συμβέβηκε τῷ λευκῷ χρώ-  
 ματι εἶναι, ἀλλὰ γένος αὐτοῦ τὸ χρώμά ἐστιν.  
 ἐνδέχεται μὲν οὖν καὶ κατὰ τὴν ὀνομασίαν διορίσαι  
 109<sup>b</sup> τὸν τιθέμενον, οἷον ὅτι συμβέβηκε τῇ δικαιοσύνῃ

<sup>a</sup> i.e. that colour is an accident of white.

## TOPICA, II. I-II

So too if the appellation is derived from genus ; for, if " to be an animal is an attribute of A," then " A is an animal." The same thing occurs in the case of a property ; if " to be receptive of grammar is an attribute of B," then " B will be receptive of grammar." For it is impossible for any of these attributes to belong or not belong in part only ; but they must belong or not belong absolutely. In the case of accidents, however, there is nothing to prevent an attribute belonging in part only (*e.g.*, whiteness or justice), and so it is not enough to show that whiteness or justice is an attribute of a man in order to show that he is white or just ; for it is possible to argue that he is only partly white or just. In the case of accidents, therefore, conversion is not necessarily possible.

We must also define the errors which occur in problems, which are of two kinds, being due either to misrepresentation or to violation of the established use of language. Those who employ misrepresentation and assert that a thing has some attribute which it has not, commit error ; while those who call things by names which do not belong to them (*e.g.*, calling a plane-tree a man) violate the established nomenclature.

II. One commonplace is to look whether your opponent has assigned as an accident something which belongs in some other way. This mistake is usually committed in respect of genera, for example, if someone should say that white happens to be a colour <sup>a</sup> ; for white does not happen to be a colour, but colour is its genus. Possibly, it is true, the man who is making the statement may expressly define the attribute as an accident, saying, for example,

Two common errors.

*Various rules regarding problems of Accident.*  
(a) Proof that what has been assigned as accident is not accident.

109 b

ἀρετῇ εἶναι· πολλάκις δὲ καὶ μὴ διορίσαντι κατὰ-  
 δηλον ὅτι τὸ γένος ὡς συμβεβηκὸς ἀποδέδωκεν,  
 οἷον εἴ τις τὴν λευκότητα κεχρῶσθαι φήσειεν ἢ  
 5 τὴν βάδισιν κινεῖσθαι. ἀπ' οὐδενὸς γὰρ γένους  
 παρωνύμως ἢ κατηγορία κατὰ τοῦ εἴδους λέγεται,  
 ἀλλὰ πάντα συνωνύμως τὰ γένη τῶν εἰδῶν κατη-  
 γορεῖται· καὶ γὰρ τοῦνομα καὶ τὸν λόγον ἐπιδέχεται  
 τῶν γενῶν τὰ εἶδη. ὁ οὖν κεχρωσμένον εἶπας τὸ  
 λευκὸν οὔτε ὡς γένος ἀποδέδωκεν, ἐπειδὴ παρω-  
 10 νύμως εἴρηκεν, οὔθ' ὡς ἴδιον ἢ ὡς ὀρισμόν· ὁ γὰρ  
 ὀρισμὸς καὶ τὸ ἴδιον οὐδενὶ ἄλλω ὑπάρχει, κέ-  
 χρωσται δὲ πολλὰ καὶ τῶν ἄλλων, οἷον ξύλον λίθος  
 ἄνθρωπος ἵππος. δῆλον οὖν ὅτι ὡς συμβεβηκὸς  
 ἀποδίδωσιν.

"Ἄλλος τὸ ἐπιβλέπειν οἷς ὑπάρχειν ἢ πᾶσιν ἢ  
 μηδενὶ εἴρηται, σκοπεῖν δὲ κατ' εἶδη καὶ μὴ ἐν  
 15 τοῖς ἀπείροις· ὁδῶ γὰρ μᾶλλον καὶ ἐν ἐλάττωσιν  
 ἢ σκέψις. δεῖ δὲ σκοπεῖν καὶ ἄρχεσθαι ἀπὸ τῶν  
 πρώτων, εἴτ' ἐφεξῆς ἕως τῶν ἀτόμων, οἷον εἰ τῶν  
 ἀντικειμένων τὴν αὐτὴν ἐπιστήμην ἔφησεν εἶναι,  
 σκεπτέον εἰ τῶν πρὸς τι καὶ τῶν ἐναντίων καὶ  
 τῶν κατὰ στέρησιν καὶ ἕξιν καὶ τῶν κατ' ἀντίφα-  
 20 σιν λεγομένων ἢ αὐτὴ ἐπιστήμη· κἂν ἐπὶ τούτων  
 μήπω φανερόν ᾗ, πάλιν ταῦτα διαιρετέον μέχρι

<sup>a</sup> The meaning of παρωνύμως is explained in *Cat.* 1 a 12 ff.: "Things are named 'derivatively' which derive their name from something else, being given a different word-form, e.g., 'grammarian' from 'grammar' and 'courageous' from 'courage.'" Cf. also Aesch. *Eum.* 8 τὸ Φοῖβης δ' ὄνομ' ἔχει (sc. Φοῖβος) παρώνυμον.



“Justice happens to be a virtue,” but often, even if he does not so define it, it is obvious that he has assigned the genus as an accident, for example, if one were to say that “whiteness is coloured,” or that “walking is motion.” For a predicate taken from a genus is never applied to a species in a derived verbal form,<sup>a</sup> but all genera are predicated unequivocally of their species; for the species take the name and the description of their genera. A man, therefore, who speaks of white as ‘coloured’ has not assigned ‘colour’ as a genus, since he has described it by a derived form of the word, nor as a property, nor as a definition; for the definition and the property of a thing belong to nothing but that thing, whereas many other things are ‘coloured,’ for example, a piece of wood, a stone, a man or a horse. It is obvious, therefore, that he is assigning ‘coloured’ as an accident.

Another commonplace rule is to examine instances in which a predicate has been said to belong to all or none of a particular thing, and to look at them according to species and not in their infinite number; for then the examination will be more methodical and in fewer stages. The examination must be carried on and begin from the primary classes and then go on step by step until further division is impossible. For example, if your opponent has said that “the knowledge of opposites is the same,” you must examine whether the knowledge is the same of relative opposites and contraries and predicates based on the privation and presence of certain conditions, and of contradictory predicates. If the matter is not yet clear in the light of these, the process of division must be continued until the

(b) Examination of the subjects of predication.

109 b

τῶν ἀτόμων, οἷον εἰ τῶν δικαίων καὶ ἀδίκων,  
 ἢ τοῦ διπλασίου καὶ ἡμίσεος, ἢ τυφλότητος καὶ  
 ὄψεως, ἢ τοῦ εἶναι καὶ μὴ εἶναι. ἐὰν γὰρ ἐπὶ  
 τινος δειχθῇ ὅτι οὐχ ἡ αὕτη, ἀνηρηκότες ἐσόμεθα  
 25 τὸ πρόβλημα· ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐὰν μηδενὶ ὑπάρχη.  
 οὗτος δ' ὁ τόπος ἀντιστρέφει πρὸς τὸ ἀνασκευάζειν  
 καὶ κατασκευάζειν. ἐὰν γὰρ ἐπὶ πάντων φαίνεται  
 διαίρεσιν προενέγκασιν ἢ ἐπὶ πολλῶν, ἀξιωτέον  
 καὶ καθόλου τιθέναι ἢ ἔνστασιν φέρειν ἐπὶ τίνος  
 οὐχ οὕτως· ἐὰν γὰρ μηδέτερον τούτων ποιῇ,  
 ἄτοπος φανέεται μὴ τιθεῖς.

30 Ἄλλος τὸ λόγους ποιεῖν τοῦ τε συμβεβηκότος καὶ  
 ᾧ συμβέβηκεν, ἢ ἀμφοτέρων καθ' ἑκάτερον ἢ τοῦ  
 ἑτέρου, εἴτα σκοπεῖν εἴ τι μὴ ἀληθὲς ἐν τοῖς λόγοις  
 ὥς ἀληθὲς εἴληπται. οἷον εἰ ἔστι θεὸν ἀδικεῖν,  
 τί τὸ ἀδικεῖν; εἰ γὰρ τὸ βλάπτειν ἐκουσίως, δῆλον  
 ὥς οὐκ ἔστι θεὸν ἀδικεῖσθαι· οὐ γὰρ ἐνδέχεται

35 βλάπτεσθαι τὸν θεόν. καὶ εἰ φθονερὸς ὁ σπουδαῖος,  
 τίς ὁ φθονερὸς καὶ τίς ὁ φθόνος; εἰ γὰρ ὁ φθόνος  
 ἐστὶ λύπη ἐπὶ φαινομένη εὐπραγία τῶν ἐπικεικῶν  
 τινός, δῆλον ὅτι ὁ σπουδαῖος οὐ φθονερός· φαῦλος  
 γὰρ ἂν εἴη. καὶ εἰ ὁ νεμεσητικὸς φθονερός, τίς

110 a

ἐκάτερος αὐτῶν; οὕτω γὰρ καταφανὲς ἔσται  
 πότερον ἀληθὲς ἢ ψεῦδος τὸ ρηθέν, οἷον εἰ φθονερὸς  
 μὲν ὁ λυπούμενος ἐπὶ ταῖς τῶν ἀγαθῶν εὐπραγίαις,

indivisible is reached, for example, until you see if it is true of "just and unjust actions," "the double and the half," "blindness and sight," or "being and not-being." For if it is shown in any instance that the knowledge is not the same, we shall have demolished the problem. Similarly, too, if the predicate does not belong in any instance. This commonplace is convertible both for destructive and for constructive purposes; for if, after a long process of division, the predicate appears to apply in all or in numerous cases, we must claim that our opponent should admit its universal application or else bring forward an objection and show in what case it does not apply. If he does neither of these things, he will look foolish if he refuses to make the admission.

Another commonplace is to make definitions both of the accident and of that to which it belongs, either of both separately or one of them, and then see if anything untrue has been assumed as true in the definitions. For example, to see if it is possible to wrong a god, you must ask, what does 'wrong' mean? For if it means 'to harm wittingly,' it is obvious that it is impossible for a god to be wronged, for it is impossible for God to be harmed. Again, to see whether the good man is envious, you must ask, who is 'envious' and what is 'envy'? For if 'envy' is pain at the apparent prosperity of an honest man, clearly the good man is not envious; for then he would be a bad man. Again, to see whether the indignant man is envious, you must ask, what does each of these terms mean? For thus it will be manifest whether the statement is true or false; for example, if the man is 'envious' who is pained at the prosperity of the good, and the

(c) Definition of the accident and its subject.

110 a

νεμεσητικὸς δ' ὁ λυπούμενος ἐπὶ ταῖς τῶν κακῶν  
 εὐπραγίαις, δῆλον ὅτι οὐκ ἂν εἶη φθονερός ὁ  
 5 νεμεσητικός. λαμβάνειν δὲ καὶ ἀντὶ τῶν ἐν τοῖς  
 λόγοις ὀνομάτων λόγους, καὶ μὴ ἀφίστασθαι ἕως  
 ἂν εἰς γνώριμον ἔλθῃ· πολλάκις γὰρ ὅλου μὲν τοῦ  
 λόγου ἀποδοθέντος οὕτω δῆλον τὸ ζητούμενον,  
 ἀντὶ δέ τινος τῶν ἐν τῷ λόγῳ ὀνομάτων λόγου  
 ῥηθέντος κατάδηλον γίνεται.

- 10 "Ἐτι τὸ πρόβλημα πρότασιν ἑαυτῷ ποιούμενον  
 ἐνίστασθαι· ἡ γὰρ ἐνστασις ἔσται ἐπιχείρημα πρὸς  
 τὴν θέσιν. ἔστι δ' ὁ τόπος οὗτος σχεδὸν ὁ αὐτὸς  
 τῷ ἐπιβλέπειν οἷς ὑπάρχειν ἢ πᾶσιν ἢ μηδενὶ  
 εἴρηται· διαφέρει δὲ τῷ τρόπῳ.

"Ἐτι διορίζεσθαι ποῖα δεῖ καλεῖν ὡς οἱ πολλοὶ  
 15 καὶ ποῖα οὐ· χρήσιμον γὰρ καὶ πρὸς τὸ κατα-  
 σκευάζειν καὶ πρὸς τὸ ἀνασκευάζειν· οἷον ὅτι  
 ταῖς μὲν ὀνομασίαις τὰ πράγματα προσαγορευτέον  
 καθάπερ οἱ πολλοί, ποῖα δὲ τῶν πραγμάτων ἐστὶ  
 τοιαῦτα ἢ οὐ τοιαῦτα, οὐκέτι προσεκτέον τοῖς  
 πολλοῖς. οἷον ὑγιεινὸν μὲν ῥητέον τὸ ποιητικὸν  
 20 ὑγιείας, ὡς οἱ πολλοὶ λέγουσιν· πότερον δὲ τὸ  
 προκείμενον ποιητικὸν ὑγιείας ἢ οὐ, οὐκέτι ὡς  
 οἱ πολλοὶ κλητέον ἄλλ' ὡς ὁ ἱατρός.

III. "Ἐτι εἰὰν πολλαχῶς λέγεται, κείμενον δὲ  
 ἦ ὡς ὑπάρχει ἢ ὡς οὐχ ὑπάρχει, θάτερον δεικνύναι

<sup>a</sup> i.e. the objection will enable you to examine the assertion dialectically.

<sup>b</sup> Cf. 109 b 13.



## TOPICA, II. II-III

indignant man is he who is pained at the prosperity of the wicked, it is obvious that the indignant man could not be envious. One ought also to substitute definitions for the terms used in the definitions and to go on doing this until some familiar term is reached. For often, though the whole definition has been given, the object of our search is not yet clear, but it becomes clear when a definition has been given in place of one of the terms in the definition.

Furthermore, one ought to turn the problem for oneself into a proposition and then raise an objection to it; for an objection will be an argument against a thesis.<sup>a</sup> This commonplace rule is almost the same as examining instances in which a predicate has been said to belong to all or none of a particular thing,<sup>b</sup> but it differs in method.

Furthermore, you must define what kinds of things should be called as the majority call them, and what should not; for this is useful both for constructive and destructive purposes. For instance, you ought to lay it down that things ought to be described in the language used by the majority, but when it is asked what things are of certain kinds and what are not, you must no longer pay attention to the majority. For example, you must say, as do the majority, that 'healthy' is that which is productive of health; but when it is asked whether the subject under discussion is productive of health or not, you must no longer use the language of the majority, but that of the doctor.

III. Furthermore, if a term is used with more than one meaning and it has been stated that it belongs to or does not belong to something, we ought to

(d) Change of the problem into a proposition.

(e) Definition of what vulgar denominations should be admitted and what rejected.

Rules for dealing with ambiguity.  
(a) If the

110 a

25 τῶν πλεοναχῶς λεγομένων, ἐὰν μὴ ἄμφω ἐν-  
δέχεται. χρηστέον δ' ἐπὶ τῶν λανθανόντων· ἐὰν  
γὰρ μὴ λανθάνῃ πολλαχῶς λεγόμενον, ἐνστήσεται  
ὅτι οὐ διείλεκται ὅπερ αὐτὸς ἠπόρει, ἀλλὰ θά-  
τερον. οὗτος δ' ὁ τόπος ἀντιστρέφει καὶ πρὸς  
τὸ κατασκευάσαι καὶ ἀνασκευάσαι. κατασκευάζειν

30 μὲν γὰρ βουλόμενοι δείξομεν ὅτι θάτερον ὑπάρχει,  
ἐὰν μὴ ἄμφω δυνώμεθα· ἀνασκευάζοντες δὲ ὅτι  
οὐχ ὑπάρχει θάτερον δείξομεν, ἐὰν μὴ ἄμφω  
δυνώμεθα. πλὴν ἀνασκευάζοντι μὲν οὐδὲν δεῖ ἐξ  
ὁμολογίας διαλέγεσθαι, οὐτ' εἰ παντὶ οὐτ' εἰ  
μηδενὶ ὑπάρχειν εἴρηται· ἐὰν γὰρ δείξωμεν ὅτι

35 οὐχ ὑπάρχει ὅτωσιν, ἀνηρηκότες ἐσόμεθα τὸ παντὶ  
ὑπάρχειν, ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐνὶ δείξωμεν ὑπάρχον,  
ἀναιρήσομεν τὸ μηδενὶ ὑπάρχειν. κατασκευάζουσι  
δὲ προδιομολογητέον ὅτι εἰ ὅτωσιν ὑπάρχει παντὶ

110 b ὑπάρχει, ἂν πιθανὸν ᾗ τὸ ἀξίωμα. οὐ γὰρ ἀπόχρη  
πρὸς τὸ δείξαι ὅτι παντὶ ὑπάρχει τὸ ἐφ' ἐνὸς  
διαλεχθῆναι, οἷον εἰ ἡ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ψυχὴ ἀθάνα-  
τος, διότι ψυχὴ πᾶσα ἀθάνατος, ὥστε προομο-  
λογητέον ὅτι εἰ ἡτισοῦν ψυχὴ ἀθάνατος, πᾶσα  
ε ἀθάνατος. τοῦτο δ' οὐκ ἀεὶ ποιητέον, ἀλλ' ὅταν  
μὴ εὐπορῶμεν κοινὸν ἐπὶ πάντων ἓνα λόγον

demonstrate one of the several meanings if it is impossible to demonstrate both. This method should be used when the variety of meaning is unnoticed ; for, if it is noticed, the opponent will object that the question which he himself raised has not been discussed, but the other meaning. This commonplace is convertible for both constructive and destructive purposes. If we wish to argue constructively, we shall show that the attribute belongs in one of its senses, if we cannot show it belongs in both. For destructive criticism, we shall show that one of its senses does not belong, if we cannot show that both do not do so. In destructive criticism, however, there is no need to argue on the basis of an admission, either if the attribute is stated to belong universally or if it is stated not to belong to anything ; for if we show that there is anything whatsoever to which it does not belong, we shall have destroyed the assertion that it belongs universally, and, similarly, if we can show that it does belong in a single case, we shall demolish the assertion that it does not belong to anything. If, however, we are arguing constructively, we ought to obtain a preliminary admission that, if the attribute belongs to any one thing, it belongs universally, provided the claim is plausible. For it is not enough to argue in a single case in order to show that an attribute belongs universally—to argue, for example, that if the soul of man is immortal, then every soul is immortal. We must, therefore, obtain beforehand an admission that if any soul whatever is immortal, then every soul is immortal. This method must not be employed always, but only when we are not in a position to state a single argument which applies to all cases

ambiguity  
of a term  
escapes the  
opponent,  
use the  
meaning  
best suited  
to your  
argument.

110 b

εἰπεῖν, καθάπερ ὁ γεωμέτρης ὅτι τὸ τρίγωνον  
 δυσὶν ὀρθαῖς ἴσας ἔχει.

- Ἐὰν δὲ μὴ λανθάνῃ πολλαχῶς λεγόμενον, διελο-  
 μενον ὅσαχῶς λέγεται, καὶ ἀναιρεῖν καὶ κατα-  
 10 σκευάζειν. οἷον εἰ τὸ δέον ἐστὶ τὸ συμφέρον  
 ἢ τὸ καλόν, πειρατέον ἄμφω κατασκευάζειν ἢ  
 ἀναιρεῖν περὶ τοῦ προκειμένου, οἷον ὅτι καλὸν  
 καὶ συμφέρον, ἢ ὅτι οὔτε καλὸν οὔτε συμφέρον.  
 εἰ δὲ μὴ ἐνδέχεται ἀμφοτέρω, θάτερον δεικτέον,  
 ἐπισημαινόμενον ὅτι τὸ μὲν τὸ δ' οὔ. ὁ δ' αὐτὸς  
 15 λόγος καὶ πλείω ἢ εἰς ἅ διαιρεῖται.

- Πάλιν ὅσα μὴ καθ' ὁμωνυμίαν λέγεται πολ-  
 λαχῶς, ἀλλὰ κατ' ἄλλον τρόπον, οἷον ἐπιστήμη  
 μία πλειόνων ἢ ὡς τοῦ τέλους καὶ τοῦ πρὸς τὸ  
 τέλος, οἷον ἰατρικὴ τοῦ ὑγίειαν ποιῆσαι καὶ τοῦ  
 20 διαιτῆσαι, ἢ ὡς ἀμφοτέρων τελῶν, καθάπερ τῶν  
 ἐναντίων ἢ αὐτῇ λέγεται ἐπιστήμη (οὐδὲν γὰρ  
 μᾶλλον τέλος τὸ ἕτερον τοῦ ἑτέρου), ἢ ὡς τοῦ  
 καθ' αὐτὸ καὶ τοῦ κατὰ συμβεβηκός, οἷον καθ'  
 αὐτὸ μὲν ὅτι τὸ τρίγωνον δυσὶν ὀρθαῖς ἴσας ἔχει,  
 κατὰ συμβεβηκός δὲ ὅτι τὸ ἰσόπλευρον· ὅτι γὰρ  
 συμβέβηκε τῷ [τριγώνῳ]<sup>1</sup> ἰσοπλεύρῳ τριγώνῳ  
 25 εἶναι, κατὰ τοῦτο γνωρίζομεν ὅτι δυσὶν ὀρθαῖς  
 ἴσας ἔχει. εἰ οὖν μηδαμῶς ἐνδέχεται τὴν αὐτὴν  
 εἶναι πλειόνων ἐπιστήμην, δῆλον ὅτι ὅλως οὐκ

<sup>1</sup> Omitting τριγώνῳ with Buhle.



## TOPICA, II. III

alike, as for example, when a geometrician states that the angles of a triangle are equal to two right angles.

If there is no concealing the fact that a term has a variety of meanings, you must distinguish all of them and then proceed to demolish or confirm it. For example, if the 'right' is the 'expedient' or the 'honourable,' we must try to confirm or demolish both of these terms as applied to the subject under discussion, showing that it is honourable and expedient, or that it is neither honourable nor expedient. If it is impossible to show both, we must show one, indicating also that one is true and the other not true. The same argument also holds good when the meanings into which the term can be divided are more than two.

(b) If the ambiguity is obvious, distinguish the meanings of the term which suit the argument.

Again, there is the case of terms which are used in several senses not because they are equivocal but in some other way. Take, for example, "The science of many things is one"; here the things in question may be the ends or the means to an end (*e.g.*, medicine is the science of producing health and of diet), or they may be both of them ends, as the science of contraries is said to be the same (for one contrary is not more an end than the other), or they may be an essential and an accidental attribute—an example of the former being that the angles of a triangle are equal to two right angles, of the latter that this is true of an equilateral triangle; for we know that it is because the equilateral triangle happens to be a triangle that its angles are equal to two right angles. If, therefore, there is no sense in which it is possible for the science of many things to be the same, it is obvious that it is completely impossible that this can

110 b

ἐνδέχεται εἶναι, ἢ εἴ πως ἐνδέχεται, δῆλον ὅτι ἐνδέχεται. διαιρεῖσθαι δὲ ὅσαχῶς χρήσιμον. οἷον ἐὰν βουλόμεθα κατασκευάσαι, τὰ τοιαῦτα προ-

30 οιστέον ὅσα ἐνδέχεται, καὶ διαιρετέον εἰς ταῦτα μόνον ὅσα καὶ χρήσιμα πρὸς τὸ κατασκευάσαι· ἂν δ' ἀνασκευάσαι, ὅσα μὴ ἐνδέχεται, τὰ δὲ λοιπὰ παραλείπτεον. ποιητέον δὲ <τοῦτο><sup>1</sup> καὶ ἐπὶ τούτων, ὅταν λανθάνῃ ποσαχῶς λέγεται. καὶ εἶναι δὲ τόδε τοῦδε ἢ μὴ εἶναι ἐκ τῶν αὐτῶν τρόπων

35 κατασκευαστέον, οἷον ἐπιστήμην τήνδε τοῦδε ἢ ὡς τέλους ἢ ὡς τῶν πρὸς τὸ τέλος ἢ ὡς τῶν κατὰ συμβεβηκός, ἢ πάλιν μὴ εἶναί [τι]<sup>2</sup> κατὰ μηδένα τῶν ῥηθέντων τρόπων. ὁ δ' αὐτὸς λόγος καὶ περὶ ἐπιθυμίας, καὶ ὅσα ἄλλα λέγεται πλειόνων. ἔστι

111 a γὰρ ἢ ἐπιθυμία τούτου ἢ ὡς τέλους, οἷον ὑγιείας, ἢ ὡς τῶν πρὸς τὸ τέλος, οἷον τοῦ φαρμακευθῆναι, ἢ ὡς τοῦ κατὰ συμβεβηκός, καθάπερ ἐπὶ τοῦ οἴνου ὁ φιλόγλυκς οὐχ ὅτι οἶνος ἀλλ' ὅτι γλυκύς ἐστιν. καθ' αὐτὸ μὲν γὰρ τοῦ γλυκέος ἐπιθυμεῖ, 5 τοῦ δ' οἴνου κατὰ συμβεβηκός· ἐὰν γὰρ αὐστηρὸς ᾖ, οὐκέτι ἐπιθυμεῖ. κατὰ συμβεβηκός οὖν ἐπιθυμεῖ. χρήσιμος δ' ὁ τρόπος οὗτος ἐν τοῖς πρὸς τι· σχεδὸν γὰρ τὰ τοιαῦτα τῶν πρὸς τί ἐστιν.

IV. Ἔτι τὸ μεταλαμβάνειν εἰς τὸ γνωριμώτερον ὄνομα, οἷον ἀντὶ τοῦ ἀκριβοῦς ἐν ὑπολήψει τὸ 10 σαφές καὶ ἀντὶ τῆς πολυπραγμοσύνης τὴν φιλοπραγμοσύνην· γνωριμωτέρου γὰρ γινομένου τοῦ

<sup>1</sup> Adding τοῦτο. Pacius renders, *in his quoque hoc faciendum est*.

<sup>2</sup> Omitting τι with C.

## TOPICA, II. III-IV

be so, or, if there is some sense in which it is possible, then it is obvious that it is possible. We must distinguish as many senses as will serve our purpose. For example, if we wish to argue constructively, we must bring forward such meanings as are admissible and divide them only into those which are useful for constructive argument ; for destructive criticism, on the other hand, we must bring forward only such as are not admissible and omit the rest. This must also be done when the variety of meanings is unnoticed. The same commonplaces must also be used to confirm that one thing is, or is not, ' of ' another ; for example, that a particular science is ' of ' a particular thing, either as an end, or as a means to an end, or as an accidental circumstance, or, on the other hand, that it is not ' of ' it in any of the above ways. The same holds good of desire and any other terms which are said to be ' of ' more than one thing. For the desire of a particular thing may be the desire of it as an end (*e.g.*, health), or as a means to an end (*e.g.*, taking medicine), or as an accidental circumstance, as in the case of wine the man who likes sweet things desires it not because it is wine but because it is sweet. For his essential desire is for what is sweet, and he only desires wine accidentally ; for, if it is dry, he no longer desires it, and so his desire is accidental. This commonplace is also useful in connexion with relative terms ; for cases of this kind generally have to do with relative terms.

IV. Moreover, there is the commonplace of substituting for a term one that is more familiar, for example, using ' clear ' instead of ' exact ' in speaking of a conception, and ' meddlesomeness ' instead of ' officiousness.' For when the term is rendered more

*Various Rules :*  
(a) Substitute more familiar for less familiar terms.

111 a

ρήθέντος εὐεπιχειρητοτέρα ἢ θέσις. ἔστι δὲ καὶ οὗτος ὁ τόπος πρὸς ἄμφω κοινός, καὶ πρὸς τὸ κατασκευάζειν καὶ ἀνασκευάζειν.

Πρὸς δὲ τὸ δεῖξαι τὰναντία τῷ αὐτῷ ὑπάρχοντα  
 15 σκοπεῖν ἐπὶ τοῦ γένους, οἷον ἐὰν βουλόμεθα δεῖξαι ὅτι ἔστι περὶ αἰσθησιν ὀρθότης καὶ ἁμαρτία, τὸ δ' αἰσθάνεσθαι κρίνειν ἐστί, κρίνειν δ' ἔστιν ὀρθῶς καὶ μὴ ὀρθῶς, καὶ περὶ αἰσθησιν ἂν εἴη ὀρθότης καὶ ἁμαρτία. νῦν μὲν οὖν ἐκ τοῦ γένους περὶ τὸ εἶδος ἢ ἀπόδειξις· τὸ γὰρ κρίνειν γένος τοῦ αἰσθάνεσθαι· ὁ γὰρ αἰσθανόμενος κρίνει πως. πάλιν δ' ἐκ τοῦ εἶδους τῷ γένει· ὅσα γὰρ τῷ εἶδει ὑπάρχει, καὶ τῷ γένει, οἷον εἰ ἔστιν ἐπιστήμη φαύλη καὶ σπουδαία, καὶ διάθεσις φαύλη καὶ σπουδαία· ἡ γὰρ διάθεσις τῆς ἐπιστήμης γένος. ὁ μὲν οὖν πρότερος τόπος ψευδής ἐστι πρὸς τὸ κατασκευάσαι,  
 25 ὁ δὲ δεύτερος ἀληθής. οὐ γὰρ ἀναγκαῖον, ὅσα τῷ γένει ὑπάρχει, καὶ τῷ εἶδει ὑπάρχειν· ζῶον μὲν γάρ ἐστι πτηνὸν καὶ τετράπουν, ἄνθρωπος δ' οὐ. ὅσα δὲ τῷ εἶδει ὑπάρχει, ἀναγκαῖον καὶ τῷ γένει· εἰ γάρ ἐστιν ἄνθρωπος σπουδαῖος, καὶ ζῶόν ἐστι σπουδαῖον. πρὸς δὲ τὸ ἀνασκευάζειν ὁ μὲν  
 30 πρότερος ἀληθής, ὁ δὲ ὕστερος ψευδής· ὅσα γὰρ τῷ γένει οὐχ ὑπάρχει, οὐδὲ τῷ εἶδει· ὅσα δὲ τῷ εἶδει μὴ ὑπάρχει, οὐκ ἀναγκαῖον τῷ γένει μὴ ὑπάρχειν.

Ἐπεὶ δ' ἀναγκαῖον, ὧν τὸ γένος κατηγόρεϊται,



## TOPICA, II. iv

familiar, the thesis is more easily dealt with. This commonplace is common to both processes, the constructive and the destructive.

In order to show that contrary attributes belong to the same thing, we must look at its genus. For example, if we wish to show that there is correctness and error in perception, and if to perceive is to distinguish and distinguishing can be correct or incorrect, then there can be correctness and error in perception also. Here, then, the proof starts from the genus and is concerned with the species, for 'distinguishing' is the genus of 'perceiving,' since he who perceives is distinguishing in a certain way. On the other hand, the proof may start from the species and be concerned with the genus, for all attributes which belong to the species belong also to the genus. For instance, if there is good and bad knowledge, then there also is good and bad disposition; for disposition is the genus of knowledge. The former commonplace is fallacious for constructive argument, but the latter is true. For it is not necessary that all the attributes of the genus should also belong to the species; for 'animal' is winged and quadruped, but 'man' is not. But all the attributes which belong to the species, necessarily belong also to the genus; for if 'man' is good, then 'animal' also is good. On the other hand, for destructive criticism, the former of these arguments is true, the latter fallacious; for all the attributes which do not belong to the genus do not belong to the species either, while all those which fail to belong to the species do not necessarily fail to belong to the genus.

Since of all those things of which the genus is predicated, one of its species must necessarily also

(b) To prove the presence of contraries, examine the genus.

A note on genus and species.

111 a

καὶ τῶν εἰδῶν τι κατηγορεῖσθαι, καὶ ὅσα ἔχει τὸ  
 35 γένος ἢ παρωνύμως ἀπὸ τοῦ γένους λέγεται, καὶ  
 τῶν εἰδῶν τι ἀναγκαῖον ἔχειν ἢ παρωνύμως ἀπὸ  
 τινος τῶν εἰδῶν λέγεσθαι (οἷον εἴ τινος ἐπιστήμη  
 κατηγορεῖται, καὶ γραμματικὴ ἢ μουσικὴ ἢ τῶν  
 ἄλλων τις ἐπιστημῶν κατηγορηθήσεται, καὶ εἴ τις

111 b

ἔχει ἐπιστήμην ἢ παρωνύμως ἀπὸ τῆς ἐπιστήμης  
 λέγεται, καὶ γραμματικὴν ἔξει ἢ μουσικὴν ἢ τινα  
 τῶν ἄλλων ἐπιστημῶν ἢ παρωνύμως ἀπὸ τινος  
 αὐτῶν ῥηθήσεται, οἷον γραμματικὸς ἢ μουσικός),  
 5 εἰάν οὖν τι τεθῇ λεγόμενον ἀπὸ τοῦ γένους ὅπως οὖν,  
 οἷον τὴν ψυχὴν κινεῖσθαι, σκοπεῖν εἰ κατὰ τι τῶν  
 εἰδῶν τῶν τῆς κινήσεως ἐνδέχεται τὴν ψυχὴν  
 κινεῖσθαι, οἷον αὔξεσθαι ἢ φθείρεσθαι ἢ γίνεσθαι  
 ἢ ὅσα ἄλλα κινήσεως εἶδη· εἰ γὰρ κατὰ μηδέν,  
 δῆλον ὅτι οὐ κινεῖται. οὗτος δ' ὁ τόπος κοινὸς  
 πρὸς ἄμφω, πρὸς τε τὸ ἀνασκευάζειν καὶ κατασκευ-  
 10 ἀζειν· εἰ γὰρ κατὰ τι τῶν εἰδῶν κινεῖται, δῆλον  
 ὅτι κινεῖται, καὶ εἰ κατὰ μηδέν τῶν εἰδῶν κινεῖται,  
 δῆλον ὅτι οὐ κινεῖται.

Μὴ εὐποροῦντι δὲ ἐπιχειρήματος πρὸς τὴν θέσιν,  
 σκοπεῖν ἐκ τῶν ὀρισμῶν ἢ τῶν ὄντων τοῦ προ-  
 κειμένου πράγματος ἢ τῶν δοκούντων, καὶ εἴ  
 15 μὴ ἀφ' ἐνὸς ἀλλ' ἀπὸ πλειόνων. ῥᾶόν γὰρ ὀρισα-

<sup>1</sup> Reading, with B, καὶ εἰ: καὶ εἰ P: καὶ Bekker.

## TOPICA, II. IV

be predicated, and since all those things which possess that genus, or derive their description from that genus, must also possess one of its species or derive their description from one of its species—for example, if knowledge is predicated of someone, then grammatical knowledge or musical knowledge or one of the other kinds of knowledge will be predicated of him, and if a man possesses knowledge or if the description which he has is derived from his knowledge, then he will also possess grammatical knowledge or musical knowledge, or one of the other kinds of knowledge, or will derive his description from one of them, being called, for example, a ‘grammarian’ or a ‘musician’—then, if a statement is made which is derived in any way from the genus (for example, that the soul is in motion), you must examine whether it is possible for the soul to be in motion according to any of the species of motion, for example, whether it can increase or decay or come into being or move in any of the other species of motion; for if it cannot move in accordance with any of them, obviously it is not in motion. This commonplace is common to both processes, the destructive and the constructive; for if it moves according to one of the species of motion, obviously it is in motion, and if it does not move in accordance with any of them, obviously it is not in motion.

If you have not a supply of material for arguing against the thesis, you should look for arguments taken from the real or generally accepted definitions of the subject under discussion, and if you cannot argue from one, you must argue from several. For it is easier to attack the subject when you have

(c) Obtain material by examining the definitions of the subject.

111 b

μένοις ἐπιχειρεῖν ἔσται· πρὸς γὰρ τοὺς ὁρισμοὺς ῥᾶον ἢ ἐπιχείρησις.

Σκοπεῖν δὲ ἐπὶ τοῦ προκειμένου, τίνος ὄντος τὸ προκείμενόν ἐστιν, ἢ τί ἐστιν ἐξ ἀνάγκης εἰ τὸ προκείμενον ἔστι, κατασκευάζειν μὲν βουλομένῳ, 20 τίνος ὄντος τὸ προκείμενον ἔσται (ἐὰν γὰρ ἐκείνο δειχθῇ ὑπάρχον, καὶ τὸ προκείμενον δεδειγμένον ἔσται), ἀνασκευάζειν δὲ βουλομένῳ, τί ἐστιν εἰ τὸ προκείμενόν ἐστιν· ἐὰν γὰρ δείξωμεν τὸ ἀκόλουθον τῷ προκειμένῳ μὴ ὄν, ἀνηρηκότες ἐσόμεθα τὸ προκείμενον.

"Ἐτι ἐπὶ τὸν χρόνον ἐπιβλέπειν, εἴ που διαφωνεῖ, 25 οἷον εἰ τὸ τρεφόμενον ἔφησεν ἐξ ἀνάγκης αὔξεσθαι· τρέφεται μὲν γὰρ αἰεὶ τὰ ζῶα, αὔξεται δ' οὐκ αἰεὶ· ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ εἰ τὸ ἐπίστασθαι ἔφησε μεμνηῆσθαι· τὸ μὲν γὰρ τοῦ παρεληλυθότος χρόνου ἐστί, τὸ δὲ καὶ τοῦ παρόντος καὶ τοῦ μέλλοντος· ἐπίστασ- 30 θαι μὲν γὰρ λεγόμεθα τὰ παρόντα καὶ τὰ μέλλοντα, οἷον ὅτι ἔσται ἔκλειψις, μνημονεύειν δ' οὐκ ἐνδέχεται ἀλλ' ἢ τὸ παρεληλυθός.

V. "Ἐτι ὁ σοφιστικὸς τρόπος, τὸ ἄγειν εἰς τοιούτον πρὸς ὃ εὐπορήσομεν ἐπιχειρημάτων. τοῦτο δ' ἔσται ὅτε μὲν ἀναγκαῖον, ὅτε δὲ φαινόμενον 35 ἀναγκαῖόν, ὅτε δ' οὔτε φαινόμενον οὔτ' ἀναγκαῖον. ἀναγκαῖον μὲν οὖν, ὅταν ἀρνησαμένου τοῦ ἀποκριναμένου τῶν πρὸς τὴν θέσιν τί χρησίμων πρὸς τοῦτο τοὺς λόγους ποιῇται, τυγχάνη δὲ τοῦτο τῶν 350



made definitions ; for the attack is easier when it is aimed at definitions.

You must examine as regards the subject in hand what it is on the existence of which the existence of the subject depends, or what necessarily exists if the subject exists. For constructive purposes, you must examine what it is on the existence of which the existence of the subject will depend (for if the former has been shown to exist, the subject will have been shown to exist) ; for destructive purposes, we must examine what exists if the subject exists ; for if we show that what is consequent upon the subject does not exist, then we shall have demolished the subject.

Furthermore, you must look into the question of time and see if any discrepancy occurs anywhere, for example, if your opponent has said that that which is nourished necessarily grows ; for animals are always being nourished but are not always growing. Similarly too, if he has said that knowledge is recollection ; for the latter is of the past, the former also of the present and the future. For we are said to know things present and things future (for example, that there will be an eclipse), but it is impossible to remember anything except the past.

V. Furthermore, there is the sophistic method, by which we lead an opponent into the sort of assertion against which we shall have a supply of arguments. This expedient will be sometimes necessary, at others it will only appear necessary, at others it neither is nor appears necessary. It is necessary when, after the answerer has denied some point that is useful for employment against the thesis, the questioner directs his remarks to the support of this point and it happens to be one of the kind about which it is possible to

(d) Consider on what the existence of the subject depends.

(e) The factor of time must be considered.

*Rules for extending the argument :*

(a) The sophistic method can be used for leading on an opponent to make an assertion which can easily be refuted.

- 111 b τοιούτων ὃν πρὸς ὃ εὐπορεῖν ἔστιν ἐπιχειρήμάτων.
- 112 a ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ὅταν ἐπαγωγὴν πρὸς τι διὰ τοῦ  
 κειμένου ποιησάμενος ἀναιρεῖν ἐπιχειρῇ· τούτου  
 γὰρ ἀναιρεθέντος καὶ τὸ προκείμενον ἀναιρεῖται.  
 φαινόμενον δ' ἀναγκαῖον, ὅταν φαίνεται μὲν  
 χρήσιμον καὶ οἰκεῖον τῆς θέσεως, μὴ ἢ δέ, πρὸς  
 5 ὃ γίνονται οἱ λόγοι, εἴτε ἀρνησαμένου τοῦ τὸν  
 λόγον ὑπέχοντος, εἴτε ἐπαγωγῆς ἐνδόξου διὰ τῆς  
 θέσεως πρὸς αὐτὸ γενομένης<sup>1</sup> ἀναιρεῖν ἐπιχειροίη  
 αὐτό. τὸ δὲ λοιπόν, ὅταν μὴτ' ἀναγκαῖον ἢ μῆτε  
 φαινόμενον πρὸς ὃ γίνονται οἱ λόγοι, ἄλλως δὲ  
 παρεξελέγχεσθαι συμβαίνει τῷ ἀποκρινομένῳ. δεῖ  
 10 δ' εὐλαβεῖσθαι τὸν ἔσχατον τῶν ῥηθέντων τρόπων·  
 παντελῶς γὰρ ἀπηρητημένος καὶ ἀλλότριος ἔοικεν  
 εἶναι τῆς διαλεκτικῆς. διὸ δεῖ καὶ τὸν ἀποκρινό-  
 μενον μὴ δυσκολαίνειν, ἀλλὰ τιθέναι τὰ μὴ χρή-  
 σιμα πρὸς τὴν θέσιν, ἐπισημαινόμενον ὅσα μὴ  
 δοκεῖ, τίθησι δέ. μᾶλλον γὰρ ἀπορεῖν ὥς ἐπὶ τὸ  
 15 πολὺ συμβαίνει τοῖς ἐρωτῶσι πάντων τιθεμένων  
 αὐτοῖς τῶν τοιούτων, εἰ μὴ περαίνωσιν.

Ἔτι πᾶς ὁ εἰρηκῶς ὀτιοῦν τρόπον τινὰ πολλὰ  
 εἴρηκεν, ἐπειδὴ πλείω ἐκάστω ἐξ ἀνάγκης ἀκό-  
 λουθά ἐστίν, οἷον ὁ εἰρηκῶς ἄνθρωπον εἶναι καὶ  
 ὅτι ζῶόν ἐστιν εἴρηκε καὶ ὅτι ἔμψυχον καὶ ὅτι  
 δίπουν καὶ ὅτι νοῦ καὶ ἐπιστήμης δεκτικόν, ὥστε  
 20 ὁποιοῦν ἑνὸς τῶν ἀκολουθῶν ἀναιρεθέντος ἀν-

<sup>1</sup> Reading γενομένης with C: γινομένης Bekker.

have a supply of arguments. It is in like manner necessary also when the questioner, having reached a certain point through induction by means of the view which his opponent has set forth, then attempts to demolish that point; for, if this has been demolished, the view originally set forth is also demolished. It appears necessary, when the point towards which the discussion is tending, appears to be useful and germane to the thesis but is not really so, either when the man who is sustaining an argument has denied the point or if the questioner has reached the point by plausible induction based on the thesis, and then attempts to demolish it. The other case is when the point to which the discussion is tending neither is necessary nor appears to be necessary, and it is the answerer's fate to be defeated on some irrelevant point. We must be on our guard against the last of the above-mentioned methods; for it seems to be completely divorced from and alien to dialectic. Therefore, also, the answerer must not show bad temper but admit such points as cannot usefully be urged against the thesis, indicating anything which he admits though he does not approve of it. For questioners usually only become involved in greater difficulty, when all such admissions are made, if they cannot reach a conclusion.

Furthermore, a man who has made an assertion of any kind whatsoever, has in a way made a number of assertions, because each assertion necessarily involves a number of consequences. For example, he who has said that "X is a man," has also said that X is an animal and a biped and is animate and is receptive of reason and knowledge; so that, if any single one of these consequences is demolished,

(b) An assertion can be demolished, if a consequence of it can be subverted.

112 a

αιρείται καὶ τὸ ἐν ἀρχῇ. εὐλαβεῖσθαι δὲ χρή καὶ τὸ χαλεπωτέρου τὴν μετάληψιν ποιεῖσθαι· ἐνίστε μὲν γὰρ ῥᾶον τὸ ἀκόλουθον ἀνελεῖν, ἐνίστε δ' αὐτὸ τὸ προκείμενον.

VI. Ὅσοις δ' ἀνάγκη θάτερον μόνον ὑπάρχειν, 25 οἷον τῷ ἀνθρώπῳ τὴν νόσον ἢ τὴν ὑγίειαν, εἰς πρὸς θάτερον εὐπορῶμεν διαλέγεσθαι ὅτι ὑπάρχει ἢ οὐχ ὑπάρχει, καὶ πρὸς τὸ λοιπὸν εὐπορήσομεν. τοῦτο δ' ἀντιστρέφει πρὸς ἄμφω· δείξαντες μὲν γὰρ ὅτι ὑπάρχει θάτερον, ὅτι οὐχ ὑπάρχει τὸ λοιπὸν δεδειχότες ἐσόμεθα· εἰ δ' ὅτι οὐχ ὑπάρχει 30 δείξωμεν, τὸ λοιπὸν ὅτι ὑπάρχει δεδειχότες ἐσόμεθα. δῆλον οὖν ὅτι πρὸς ἄμφω χρήσιμος ὁ τόπος.

Ἔτι τὸ ἐπιχειρεῖν μεταφέροντα τοῦνομα ἐπὶ τὸν λόγον, ὡς μάλιστα προσῆκον ἐκλαμβάνειν ἢ ὡς κείται τοῦνομα, οἷον εὐψυχον μὴ τὸν ἀνδρεῖον, 35 καθάπερ νῦν κείται, ἀλλὰ τὸν εὖ τὴν ψυχὴν ἔχοντα, καθάπερ καὶ εὐελπιν τὸν ἀγαθὰ ἐλπίζοντα· ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ εὐδαίμονα, οὗ ἂν ὁ δαίμων ἢ σπουδαῖος, καθάπερ Ξενοκράτης φησὶν εὐδαίμονα εἶναι τὸν τὴν ψυχὴν ἔχοντα σπουδαίαν· ταύτην γὰρ ἐκάστου εἶναι δαίμονα.

112 b Ἐπεὶ δὲ τῶν πραγμάτων τὰ μὲν ἐξ ἀνάγκης ἐστὶ, τὰ δ' ὡς ἐπὶ τὸ πολὺ, τὰ δ' ὁπότερ' ἔτυχεν, εἰς τὸ ἐξ ἀνάγκης ὡς ἐπὶ τὸ πολὺ τεθῇ ἢ τὸ ὡς ἐπὶ τὸ πολὺ ἐξ ἀνάγκης, ἢ αὐτὸ ἢ τὸ ἐναντίον τῷ 5 ὡς ἐπὶ τὸ πολὺ, αἰεὶ δίδωσι τόπον ἐπιχειρήματος.

<sup>a</sup> As well as one who inspires hope, *cf.* the English 'young hopeful.'

<sup>b</sup> As well as in the meaning of 'possessed of a good fortune' in the sense of wealth.

<sup>c</sup> Frag. 81 (Heinze).



the original assertion is also demolished. But we must be on our guard against changing the assertion into something more difficult; for sometimes the consequential assertion, and sometimes the proposition itself, is the easier to demolish.

VI. Where of necessity only one of two predicates must be true (for example, a man must have either disease or health), if we have a supply of material for arguing with regard to one of them that it is present or not, we shall have a supply of material also regarding the other. This rule is convertible for both purposes; for if we have shown that one is present, we shall have shown that the other is not present; if we have shown that one is not present, we shall have shown that the other is present. It is obvious, therefore, that this commonplace is useful for both purposes.

*Various observations:*  
(a) Where only one of two predicates can be true, it is easy to argue about the other.

Another method of attack is to refer back a term to its original meaning on the ground that it is more fitting to take it in this sense than in that now established. For example, 'stout-souled' can be used to mean not 'courageous,' which is its established meaning, but it can be applied to a man whose soul is in a good condition; as also the term 'hopeful' can mean a man who hopes for good things<sup>a</sup>; and similarly 'fortunate' can be used of one whose fortune is good,<sup>b</sup> as Xenocrates<sup>c</sup> says "Fortunate is he who has a noble soul"; for his soul is each man's fortune.

(b) It can be argued that the original meaning of a word should be preferred to its current meaning.

Seeing that some things happen of necessity, others usually, others as chance dictates, the assertion that a necessary occurrence is a usual occurrence or that a usual occurrence (or the contrary of a usual occurrence) is a necessary occurrence, always gives

(c) The usual should not be represented as the necessary and vice versa.

εἰς γὰρ τὸ ἐξ ἀνάγκης ὡς ἐπὶ τὸ πολὺ τεθῆ, δῆλον  
 ὅτι οὐ παντὶ φησιν ὑπάρχειν, ὑπάρχοντος παντί,  
 ὥστε ἡμάρτηκεν· εἴ τε τὸ ὡς ἐπὶ τὸ πολὺ λεγόμενον  
 ἐξ ἀνάγκης ἔφησε· παντὶ γάρ φησιν ὑπάρχειν,  
 οὐχ ὑπάρχοντος παντί. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ εἰ  
 10 τὸ ἐναντίον τῷ ὡς ἐπὶ τὸ πολὺ ἐξ ἀνάγκης εἴρηκεν·  
 αἰεὶ γὰρ ἐπ' ἔλαττον λέγεται τὸ ἐναντίον τῷ ὡς  
 ἐπὶ τὸ πολὺ, οἷον εἰ ὡς ἐπὶ τὸ πολὺ φαῦλοι οἱ  
 ἄνθρωποι, ἀγαθοὶ ἐπ' ἔλαττον, ὥστ' ἔτι μᾶλλον  
 ἡμάρτηκεν, εἰ ἀγαθοὺς ἐξ ἀνάγκης εἴρηκεν. ὡς-  
 αὐτως δὲ καὶ εἰ τὸ ὁπότερ' ἔτυχεν ἐξ ἀνάγκης  
 15 ἔφησεν ἢ ὡς ἐπὶ τὸ πολὺ· οὔτε γὰρ ἐξ ἀνάγκης  
 τὸ ὁπότερ' ἔτυχεν οὔθ' ὡς ἐπὶ τὸ πολὺ. ἐνδέ-  
 χεται δέ, καὶ μὴ διορίσας εἶπη πότερον ὡς ἐπὶ  
 τὸ πολὺ ἢ ἐξ ἀνάγκης εἴρηκεν, ἢ δὲ τὸ πρᾶγμα  
 ὡς ἐπὶ τὸ πολὺ, διαλέγεσθαι ὡς ἐξ ἀνάγκης εἰρη-  
 κότους αὐτοῦ, οἷον εἰ φαύλους τοὺς ἀποκλήρους  
 20 ἔφησεν εἶναι μὴ διορίσας, ὡς ἐξ ἀνάγκης εἰρηκό-  
 τος αὐτοῦ διαλέγεσθαι.

"Ἐτι καὶ εἰ αὐτὸ αὐτῷ συμβεβηκὸς ἔθηκεν ὡς  
 ἕτερον διὰ τὸ ἕτερον εἶναι ὄνομα, καθάπερ Πρό-  
 δικος διηρεῖτο τὰς ἡδονὰς εἰς χαρὰν καὶ τέρψιν  
 καὶ εὐφροσύνην· ταῦτα γὰρ πάντα τοῦ αὐτοῦ τῆς  
 25 ἡδονῆς ὀνόματά ἐστιν. εἰ οὖν τις τὸ χαίρειν τῷ  
 εὐφραίνεσθαι φήσει συμβεβηκέναι, αὐτὸ ἂν αὐτῷ  
 φαίη συμβεβηκέναι.

an occasion for attack. For if a necessary occurrence is asserted to be a usual occurrence, it is obvious that the man who makes the assertion is stating that a universal attribute is not universal, and therefore he is in error; and the same is true if he has stated that a usual attribute is necessary, for he has stated that it belongs universally when it does not do so. Similarly, if he has asserted that the contrary of what is usual is necessary; for the contrary of a usual attribute is always rather rarely predicated. For example, if men are usually bad, they are rather rarely good, so that he has committed an even greater error if he has said that they are necessarily good. In like manner also, if he has declared that a chance occurrence happens necessarily or usually; for a chance occurrence does not happen either necessarily or usually. Even if he has made his assertion without distinguishing whether it is a usual or a necessary occurrence, and as a matter of fact it is a usual occurrence, it is possible to argue as though he meant that it was a necessary occurrence. For instance, if he has said that disinherited persons are bad, without making any distinction, you can argue as though he has said that they were necessarily bad.

Furthermore, you must see whether your opponent has stated something as an accidental attribute of itself, taking it as something different because it bears a different name, just as Prodicus divided pleasure into joy, delight and merriment; for these are all names for the same thing, namely pleasure. If, therefore, anyone shall assert that joy is an accidental attribute of merriment, he would be saying that it is an accidental attribute of itself.

(d) Terms which are only nominally different should not be stated as accidents of one another.

VII. Ἐπεὶ δὲ τὰ ἐναντία συμπλέκεται μὲν ἀλλήλοις ἐξαχῶς, ἐναντίωσιν δὲ ποιεῖ τετραχῶς συμπλεκόμενα, δεῖ λαμβάνειν τὰ ἐναντία, ὅπως  
 30 ἂν χρήσιμον ἦ καὶ ἀναιροῦντι καὶ κατασκευάζοντι. ὅτι μὲν οὖν ἐξαχῶς συμπλέκεται, δῆλον· ἢ γὰρ ἐκάτερον τῶν ἐναντίων ἐκατέρῳ συμπλακῆσεται· τοῦτο δὲ διχῶς, οἷον τὸ τοὺς φίλους εὖ ποιεῖν καὶ τὸ τοὺς ἐχθροὺς κακῶς, ἢ ἀνάπαλιν τὸ τοὺς φίλους κακῶς καὶ τοὺς ἐχθροὺς εὖ. ἢ ὅταν ἄμφω περὶ τοῦ  
 35 ἐνός· διχῶς δὲ καὶ τοῦτο, οἷον τὸ τοὺς φίλους εὖ καὶ τὸ τοὺς φίλους κακῶς, ἢ τὸ τοὺς ἐχθροὺς εὖ καὶ τοὺς ἐχθροὺς κακῶς. ἢ τὸ ἐν περὶ ἀμφοτέρων· διχῶς δὲ καὶ τοῦτο, οἷον τὸ τοὺς φίλους εὖ καὶ τὸ τοὺς ἐχθροὺς εὖ, ἢ τοὺς φίλους κακῶς καὶ τοὺς ἐχθροὺς κακῶς.

113 a Αἱ μὲν οὖν πρῶται δύο ῥηθεῖσαι συμπλοκαὶ οὐ ποιοῦσιν ἐναντίωσιν· τὸ γὰρ τοὺς φίλους εὖ ποιεῖν τῷ τοὺς ἐχθροὺς κακῶς οὐκ ἔστιν ἐναντίον· ἀμφοτέρω γὰρ αἰρετὰ καὶ τοῦ αὐτοῦ ἡθους· οὐδὲ τὸ τοὺς φίλους κακῶς τῷ τοὺς ἐχθροὺς εὖ· καὶ γὰρ  
 5 ταῦτα ἀμφοτέρω φευκτὰ καὶ τοῦ αὐτοῦ ἡθους· οὐ δοκεῖ δὲ φευκτὸν φευκτῷ ἐναντίον εἶναι, εἰ μὴ τὸ μὲν καθ' ὑπερβολὴν τὸ δὲ κατ' ἔνδειαν λεγόμενον ἦ· ἢ τε γὰρ ὑπερβολὴ τῶν φευκτῶν δοκεῖ εἶναι, ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἡ ἔνδεια· τὰ δὲ λοιπὰ πάντα τέτταρα ποιεῖ ἐναντίωσιν· τὸ γὰρ τοὺς  
 10 φίλους εὖ ποιεῖν τῷ τοὺς φίλους κακῶς ἐναντίον·



VII. Seeing that contraries may be combined with one another in six ways, and four of these combinations make a contrariety, we must avail ourselves of contraries in whatever way may be useful both for destructive and for constructive purposes. That there are six kinds of combination is obvious; for either (a) each of the contrary verbs will be combined with each of the contrary objects, and this in two ways, for example, "to do good to friends and to do harm to enemies," or, conversely, "to do harm to friends and to do good to enemies"; or (b) both verbs may be used with one object, and this also in two ways, for example, "to do good to friends and to do harm to friends," or, "to do good to enemies and to do harm to enemies"; or (c) one verb may be used with both objects, and this also in two ways, for example, "to do good to friends and to do good to enemies," or, "to do harm to friends and to do harm to enemies."

*Rules drawn from contraries:*

(a) Since one proposition may have several contraries, the most suitable must be selected.

The first two of the above combinations do not form a contrariety, for "to do good to friends" is not the contrary of "to do harm to enemies"; for both these actions are objects of choice and belong to the same character. Nor is "to do harm to friends" the contrary of "to do good to enemies"; for both these actions are objects of avoidance and belong to the same character, and one object of avoidance is not generally regarded as the contrary of another object of avoidance, unless the one is used to denote excess and the other defect; for excess is generally regarded as an object of avoidance, and so likewise also is defect. But all the other four combinations form a contrariety; for "to do good to friends" is the contrary of "to do harm

ἀπό τε γὰρ ἐναντίου ἡθους ἐστί, καὶ τὸ μὲν αἵρετόν  
 τὸ δὲ φευκτόν. ὡσαύτως δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων·  
 καθ' ἐκάστην γὰρ συζυγίαν τὸ μὲν αἵρετόν τὸ δὲ  
 φευκτόν, καὶ τὸ μὲν ἐπιεικοῦς ἡθους τὸ δὲ φαύλου.  
 δῆλον οὖν ἐκ τῶν εἰρημένων ὅτι τῷ αὐτῷ πλείονα  
 15 ἐναντία συμβαίνει γίνεσθαι. τῷ γὰρ τοὺς φίλους  
 εὖ ποιεῖν καὶ τὸ τοὺς ἐχθροὺς εὖ ποιεῖν ἐναντίον  
 καὶ τὸ τοὺς φίλους κακῶς. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ τῶν  
 ἄλλων ἐκάστῳ τὸν αὐτὸν τρόπον ἐπισκοποῦσι δύο  
 τὰ ἐναντία φανήσεται. λαμβάνειν οὖν τῶν ἐναντίων  
 ὁπότερον ἂν ᾗ πρὸς τὴν θέσιν χρήσιμον.

20 "Ετι εἰ ἔστι τι ἐναντίον τῷ συμβεβηκότι, σκοπεῖν  
 εἰ ὑπάρχει ὥπερ τὸ συμβεβηκὸς εἴρηται ὑπάρχειν·  
 εἰ γὰρ τοῦτο ὑπάρχει, ἐκεῖνο οὐκ ἂν ὑπάρχοι·  
 ἀδύνατον γὰρ τὰναντία ἅμα τῷ αὐτῷ ὑπάρχειν.

"Η εἴ τι τοιοῦτον εἴρηται κατὰ τινος, οὗ ὄντος  
 25 ἀνάγκη τὰ ἐναντία ὑπάρχειν. οἷον εἰ τὰς ιδέας ἐν  
 ἡμῖν ἔφησεν εἶναι· κινεῖσθαι τε γὰρ καὶ ἡρεμεῖν  
 αὐτὰς συμβήσεται, ἔτι δὲ αἰσθητὰς καὶ νοητὰς  
 εἶναι. δοκοῦσι γὰρ αἱ ιδέαι ἡρεμεῖν καὶ νοηταὶ  
 εἶναι τοῖς τιθεμένοις ιδέας εἶναι, ἐν ἡμῖν δὲ οὐσας  
 ἀδύνατον ἀκινήτους εἶναι· κινουμένων γὰρ ἡμῶν  
 30 ἀναγκαῖον καὶ τὰ ἐν ἡμῖν πάντα συγκινεῖσθαι.  
 δῆλον δ' ὅτι καὶ αἰσθηταί, εἴπερ ἐν ἡμῖν εἰσὶ· διὰ

<sup>a</sup> ιδέαι seem to be used here in the Platonic sense.

to friends," for they proceed from contrary characters, and one is an object of choice and the other of avoidance. Similarly, also, with the other combinations; for in each pair one is an object of choice, the other of avoidance; one always belongs to a good character, the other to a bad. It is obvious, therefore, from what has been said that the same thing has in fact more than one contrary. For "to do good to friends" has as its contrary both "to do good to enemies" and "to do harm to friends." In like manner, if we examine them in the same way, it will be apparent that the contraries of each of the others are two in number. We must, therefore, take whichever of the two contraries is useful for dealing with the thesis.

Furthermore, if the accident of anything has a contrary, you must examine whether it belongs to that to which the accident has been said to belong. For, if the former belongs, the latter cannot belong; for it is impossible for two contraries to belong to the same thing at the same time.

Again, you should see if anything has been said regarding something, such that, if it exists, contrary predicates must of necessity belong to the thing, for example, if your opponent has said that "ideas<sup>a</sup> exist in us." For, if so, it will follow that they are both in motion and at rest, and, further, that they are objects both of sensation and of thought. For ideas are considered, by those who assert their existence, to be both at rest and objects of thought, but if they exist in us it is impossible for them to be unmoved; for, when we move, everything that is in us must of necessity also move with us. Obviously, also, they are objects of sensation, if indeed they

(b) The contrary of the accident of anything cannot be predicated of the same thing as is the accident.

(c) Nothing which can be predicated of a thing must involve contrary predicates.

113 a

γὰρ τῆς περὶ τὴν ὄψιν αἰσθήσεως τὴν ἐν ἐκάστω μορφῇ γνωρίζομεν.

Πάλιν εἰ κεῖται συμβεβηκὸς ᾧ ἐστὶ τι ἐναντίον, σκοπεῖν εἰ καὶ τοῦ ἐναντίου δεκτικόν, ὅπερ καὶ  
 35 τοῦ συμβεβηκότος· τὸ γὰρ αὐτὸ τῶν ἐναντίων δεκτικόν, οἷον εἰ τὸ μῖσος ἔπεσθαι ὀργῇ ἔφησεν,  
 113 b εἴη ἂν τὸ μῖσος ἐν τῷ θυμοειδεῖ· ἐκεῖ γὰρ ἡ ὀργή· σκεπτέον οὖν εἰ καὶ τὸ ἐναντίον ἐν τῷ θυμοειδεῖ, ἡ φιλία· εἰ γὰρ μή, ἀλλ' ἐν τῷ ἐπιθυμητικῷ ἐστὶν ἡ φιλία, οὐκ ἂν ἔποιτο μῖσος ὀργῇ. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ εἰ τὸ ἐπιθυμητικὸν ἀγνοεῖν ἔφησεν. εἴη γὰρ  
 5 ἂν καὶ ἐπιστήμης δεκτικόν, εἴπερ καὶ ἀγνοίας· ὅπερ οὐ δοκεῖ, τὸ ἐπιθυμητικὸν δεκτικὸν εἶναι ἐπιστήμης. ἀνασκευάζοντι μὲν οὖν, καθάπερ εἴρηται, χρηστέον· κατασκευάζοντι δέ, ὅτι μὲν ὑπάρχει τὸ συμβεβηκός, οὐ χρήσιμος ὁ τόπος, ὅτι δ' ἐνδέχεται ὑπάρχειν, χρήσιμος. δείξαντες μὲν γὰρ  
 10 ὅτι οὐ δεκτικὸν τοῦ ἐναντίου, δεδειχότες ἐσόμεθα ὅτι οὔτε ὑπάρχει τὸ συμβεβηκὸς οὔτ' ἐνδέχεται ὑπάρξαι· ἐὰν δὲ δείξωμεν ὅτι ὑπάρχει τὸ ἐναντίον ἢ ὅτι δεκτικὸν τοῦ ἐναντίου ἐστίν, οὐδέπω δεδειχότες ἐσόμεθα ὅτι καὶ τὸ συμβεβηκὸς ὑπάρχει, ἀλλ' ὅτι ἐνδέχεται ὑπάρχειν, ἐπὶ τοσοῦτον μόνον δεδειγμένον ἔσται.

15 VIII. Ἐπεὶ δ' αἱ ἀντιθέσεις τέτταρες, σκοπεῖν ἐκ μὲν τῶν ἀντιφάσεων ἀνάπαλιν ἐκ τῆς ἀκολουθήσεως καὶ ἀναιροῦντι καὶ κατασκευάζοντι, λαμ-



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exist in us ; for it is through the sensation connected with sight that we recognize the form which is in each thing.

Again, if an accident which has a contrary is asserted, you must look whether what admits of the accident admits also of its contrary ; for the same thing admits of contraries. For example, if your opponent has said that hatred follows anger, then hatred would be in the spirited faculty ; for anger is in that faculty. You must, therefore, look whether its contrary, namely friendship, is also in the spirited faculty ; for if it is not there but in the appetitive faculty, then hatred cannot follow anger. Similarly, too, if he has declared that the appetitive faculty is ignorant ; for if it were capable of ignorance, it would also be capable of knowledge, and it is not a generally accepted opinion that the appetitive faculty is capable of knowledge. This method, as has been said, should be used in destructive criticism ; but for constructive purposes the commonplace is of no use for proving that an accident belongs, though it is useful for proving that it may possibly belong. For, when we have shown that something does not admit of the contrary, we shall have shown that the accident neither belongs nor can possibly do so ; but if we show that the contrary belongs or that the subject admits of the contrary, we shall not yet have shown that the accident actually belongs, but we shall only have gone as far as to show that it may possibly belong.

VIII. Since there are four kinds of opposition, you must see whether arguments can be derived from the contradictories, taking them in reverse order, for both destructive and constructive purposes, and

(d) That which admits of an accident admits also of its contrary.

Rules based on different kinds of opposition ;  
(a) Four kinds of

113 b

βάνειν δ' ἐξ ἐπαγωγῆς, οἷον εἰ ὁ ἄνθρωπος ζῶον,  
 τὸ μὴ ζῶον οὐκ ἄνθρωπος. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ  
 τῶν ἄλλων. ἐνταῦθα γὰρ ἀνάπαλιν ἢ ἀκολουθήσεις.  
 20 τῷ μὲν γὰρ ἀνθρώπῳ τὸ ζῶον ἔπεται, τῷ δὲ μὴ  
 ἀνθρώπῳ τὸ μὴ ζῶον οὐ, ἀλλ' ἀνάπαλιν τῷ μὴ  
 ζῳῷ τὸ οὐκ ἄνθρωπος. ἐπὶ πάντων οὖν τὸ τοι-  
 οὔτον ἀξιωτέον, οἷον εἰ τὸ καλὸν ἡδύ, καὶ τὸ μὴ  
 ἡδύ οὐ καλόν· εἰ δὲ μὴ τοῦτο, οὐδ' ἐκείνο. ὁμοίως  
 25 δὲ καὶ εἰ τὸ μὴ ἡδύ οὐ καλόν, τὸ καλὸν ἡδύ. δη-  
 λον οὖν ὅτι πρὸς ἄμφω ἀντιστρέφει ἢ κατὰ τὴν  
 ἀντίφασιν ἀκολουθήσεις ἀνάπαλιν γινομένη.

Ἐπὶ δὲ τῶν ἐναντίων σκοπεῖν εἰ τῷ ἐναντίῳ τὸ  
 ἐναντίον ἔπεται, ἢ ἐπὶ ταῦτα ἢ ἀνάπαλιν, καὶ  
 ἀναιροῦντι καὶ κατασκευάζοντι· λαμβάνειν δὲ καὶ  
 30 τὰ τοιαῦτα ἐξ ἐπαγωγῆς, ἐφ' ὅσον χρήσιμον. ἐπὶ  
 ταῦτα μὲν οὖν ἢ ἀκολουθήσεις, οἷον τῇ ἀνδρίᾳ καὶ  
 τῇ δειλίᾳ· τῇ μὲν γὰρ ἀρετῇ ἀκολουθεῖ, τῇ δὲ  
 κακίᾳ, καὶ τῇ μὲν ἀκολουθεῖ τὸ αἰρετόν, τῇ δὲ τὸ  
 φευκτόν. ἐπὶ ταῦτα οὖν καὶ ἡ τούτων ἀκολουθήσεις·  
 ἐναντίον γὰρ τὸ αἰρετόν τῷ φευκτῷ. ὁμοίως δὲ  
 35 καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων. ἀνάπαλιν δὲ ἢ ἀκολουθήσεις,  
 οἷον εὐεξία μὲν ἢ ὑγίεια ἀκολουθεῖ, καχεξία δὲ  
 νόσος οὐ, ἀλλὰ νόσῳ καχεξία. δῆλον οὖν ὅτι  
 114 a ἀνάπαλιν ἐπὶ τούτων ἢ ἀκολουθήσεις. σπάνιον δὲ  
 τὸ ἀνάπαλιν ἐπὶ τῶν ἐναντίων συμβαίνει, ἀλλὰ  
 τοῖς πλείστοις ἐπὶ ταῦτα ἢ ἀκολουθήσεις. εἰ οὖν  
 μήτ' ἐπὶ ταῦτα τῷ ἐναντίῳ τὸ ἐναντίον ἀκολουθεῖ  
 364

you should obtain them by induction, for example, "If man is an animal, not-animal is not-man," and so with the other cases. For here the order is reversed; for 'animal' follows 'man,' but 'not-animal' does not follow 'not-man,' but, conversely, 'not-man' follows 'not-animal.' In all cases, an axiom must be laid down of the following type, "If the honourable is pleasant, what is not pleasant is not honourable, but, if the latter is not true, then the former is not true either." Similarly, "If what is not pleasant is not honourable, the pleasant is honourable." It is clear, therefore, that the reversed sequence of the terms used in contradiction is convertible for both purposes.

opposition must be used to show that if A follows B, not-B also follows not-A.

You must look with regard to contraries whether contrary follows upon contrary, either directly or in reverse order, both in destructive criticism and in constructive argument, and you should obtain such arguments also by induction as far as may be useful. Now the sequence is direct in the case, for example, of courage and cowardice; for virtue follows the former, vice the latter; and object of choice follows the former, object of avoidance the latter. The sequence, therefore, in the latter case also is direct; for object of choice is contrary to object of avoidance; so too in the other cases also. On the other hand, the sequence is in reverse order in such a case as this: "Health follows upon good condition; but disease does not follow upon bad condition, but bad condition upon disease." It is clear, therefore, that here the sequence is reversed; but reversed sequence is rare in the case of contraries, where the sequence is generally direct. If, then, the contrary does not follow the contrary either directly or in reverse

(b) It must be observed whether the contrary follows the contrary directly or reversely.

μήτε ἀνάπαλιν, δῆλον ὅτι οὐδ' ἐπὶ τῶν ῥηθέντων  
 5 ἀκολουθεῖ τὸ ἕτερον τῷ ἑτέρῳ. εἰ δ' ἐπὶ τῶν  
 ἐναντίων, καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ῥηθέντων ἀναγκαῖον τὸ  
 ἕτερον τῷ ἑτέρῳ ἀκολουθεῖν.

Ὅμοίως δὲ τοῖς ἐναντίοις καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν στερήσεων  
 καὶ ἕξεων σκεπτέον. πλὴν οὐκ ἔστιν ἐπὶ τῶν  
 στερήσεων τὸ ἀνάπαλιν, ἀλλ' ἐπὶ ταῦτά τὴν ἀκο-  
 λούθησιν ἀναγκαῖον αἰεὶ γίνεσθαι, καθάπερ ὄψει  
 10 μὲν αἰσθησιν, τυφλότητι δ' ἀναισθησίαν. ἀντίκει-  
 ται γὰρ ἡ αἰσθησις τῇ ἀναισθησίᾳ ὥς ἕξις καὶ  
 στέρησις· τὸ μὲν γὰρ ἕξις αὐτῶν, τὸ δὲ στέρησις  
 ἔστιν.

Ὅμοίως δὲ τῇ ἕξει καὶ τῇ στερήσει καὶ ἐπὶ  
 τῶν πρὸς τι χρηστέον· ἐπὶ ταῦτά γὰρ καὶ τούτων  
 ἡ ἀκολουθήσις. οἷον εἰ τὸ τριπλάσιον πολλα-  
 15 πλάσιον, καὶ τὸ τριτημόριον πολλοστημόριον· λέ-  
 γεται γὰρ τὸ μὲν τριπλάσιον πρὸς τὸ τριτημόριον,  
 τὸ δὲ πολλαπλάσιον πρὸς τὸ πολλοστημόριον.  
 πάλιν εἰ ἡ ἐπιστήμη ὑπόληψις, καὶ τὸ ἐπιστητὸν  
 ὑποληπτόν· καὶ εἰ ἡ ὄρασις αἰσθησις, καὶ τὸ  
 20 ὁρατὸν αἰσθητόν. ἔνστασις ὅτι οὐκ ἀνάγκη ἐπὶ  
 τῶν πρὸς τι τὴν ἀκολουθήσιν γίνεσθαι, καθάπερ  
 εἴρηται· τὸ γὰρ αἰσθητὸν ἐπιστητὸν ἔστιν, ἡ δ'  
 αἰσθησις οὐκ ἐπιστήμη. οὐ μὲν ἀληθὴς γε ἡ  
 ἔνστασις δοκεῖ εἶναι· πολλοὶ γὰρ οὐ φασι τῶν  
 αἰσθητῶν ἐπιστήμην εἶναι. ἔτι πρὸς τοῦναντίον  
 25 οὐχ ἥττον χρήσιμον τὸ ῥηθέν, οἷον ὅτι τὸ αἰσθητὸν  
 οὐκ ἔστιν ἐπιστητὸν· οὐδὲ γὰρ ἡ αἰσθησις ἐπιστήμη.

IX. Πάλιν ἐπὶ τῶν συστοίχων καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν πτώ-  
 σεων, καὶ ἀναιροῦντα καὶ κατασκευάζοντα. λέγε-

<sup>a</sup> See note on 106 b 29.



## TOPICA, II. VIII-IX

order, it is clear that neither does one of the terms in the statement follow the other ; but if one follows the other in the case of the contraries, one term in the statement must also necessarily follow the other.

Just as you examine contraries, so also you should examine cases of the privation or presence of states, except that in the case of privation the reverse sequence is impossible but the sequence must always of necessity be direct ; for example, sensation must follow sight and absence of sensation must follow blindness. For sensation is opposed to absence of sensation ; for they are a state and a privation, the former being a state, the latter a privation.

(c) Cases of the privation or presence of states must be examined.

You must also deal with relative terms in the same manner as with the privation or presence of states ; for here too the sequence is direct. For example, if three times is a multiple, a third is a fraction ; for three times is described as relative to a third, and a multiple as relative to a fraction. Again, if knowledge is a conceiving, then the knowable is conceivable ; and if sight is a sensation, then the visible is sensible. It may be objected that in the case of relative terms the sequence does not necessarily take place in the manner just described ; for the sensible is knowable, but sensation is not knowledge. The objection, however, is not generally regarded as holding good ; for many people deny that there is a knowledge of sensible things. Further, the above principle is not less useful for proving the contrary, for example, that the sensible is not knowable ; for neither is sensation knowledge.

(d) Relative terms must also be considered.

IX. Again, you must look at the case of the co-ordinates and inflected forms of words<sup>a</sup> both in destructive and constructive argument. By 'co-

*Various Rules:*  
(a) What is true of one co-ordinate

114 a

ται δὲ σύστοιχα μὲν τὰ τοιάδε οἷον τὰ δίκαια  
 καὶ ὁ δίκαιος τῇ δικαιοσύνῃ καὶ τὰ ἀνδρεία καὶ ὁ  
 ἀνδρεῖος τῇ ἀνδρίᾳ. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ τὰ ποιητικά ἢ  
 30 φυλακτικά σύστοιχα ἐκείνου οὗ ἐστὶ ποιητικά ἢ  
 φυλακτικά, οἷον τὰ ὑγιεινὰ ὑγιείας καὶ τὰ εὐεκτικά  
 εὐεξίας. τὸν αὐτὸν δὲ τρόπον καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων.  
 σύστοιχα μὲν οὖν τὰ τοιαῦτα εἶωθε λέγεσθαι,  
 πτώσεις δὲ οἷον τὸ δικαίως καὶ ἀνδρεῖως καὶ  
 ὑγιεινῶς καὶ ὅσα τοῦτον τὸν τρόπον λέγεται.  
 35 δοκεῖ δὲ καὶ τὰ κατὰ τὰς πτώσεις σύστοιχα εἶναι,  
 οἷον τὸ μὲν δικαίως τῇ δικαιοσύνῃ, τὸ δὲ ἀνδρεῖως  
 τῇ ἀνδρίᾳ. σύστοιχα δὲ λέγεται τὰ κατὰ τὴν  
 αὐτὴν συστοιχίαν ἅπαντα, οἷον δικαιοσύνη, δίκαιος,  
 δίκαιον, δικαίως. δῆλον οὖν ὅτι ἐνὸς ὁποιοῦν  
 δειχθέντος τῶν κατὰ τὴν αὐτὴν συστοιχίαν ἀγαθοῦ  
 114 b ἢ ἐπαινετοῦ καὶ τὰ λοιπὰ πάντα δεδειγμένα ἔσται,  
 οἷον εἰ ἡ δικαιοσύνη τῶν ἐπαινετῶν, καὶ ὁ δίκαιος  
 καὶ τὸ δίκαιον καὶ τὸ δικαίως τῶν ἐπαινετῶν.  
 ῥηθήσεται δὲ τὸ δικαίως καὶ ἐπαινετῶς κατὰ τὴν  
 5 αὐτὴν πτώσιν ἀπὸ τοῦ ἐπαινετοῦ, καθάπερ τὸ  
 δικαίως ἀπὸ τῆς δικαιοσύνης.

Σκοπεῖν δὲ μὴ μόνον ἐπ' αὐτοῦ τοῦ εἰρημένου,  
 ἀλλὰ καὶ ἐπὶ τοῦ ἐναντίου τὸ ἐναντίον, οἷον ὅτι  
 τὸ ἀγαθὸν οὐκ ἐξ ἀνάγκης ἡδύ· οὐδὲ γὰρ τὸ κακὸν  
 λυπηρόν· ἢ εἰ τοῦτο, κακέينو. καὶ εἰ ἡ δικαιοσύνη  
 10 ἐπιστήμη, καὶ ἡ ἀδικία ἄγνοια· καὶ εἰ τὸ δικαίως

ordinates' are meant such terms as 'just actions', and 'just man,' which are co-ordinate with 'justice,' and 'courageous acts' and 'courageous man,' which are co-ordinate with 'courage.' Similarly also things which create or preserve something are co-ordinate with that of which they are creative or preservative, for example 'healthy things' are co-ordinate with 'health,' and 'things which produce a good condition' are co-ordinate with 'good condition,' and so with the other cases. Such things, then, are usually described as 'co-ordinates'; 'inflected forms' are such words as 'justly,' 'courageously' and 'healthily' and other words formed in this way. Inflected forms are usually regarded also as co-ordinates, for example, 'justly' as a co-ordinate of 'justice' and 'courageously' of 'courage.' All words which are in the same co-ordinate series are called co-ordinates, for example, 'justice,' 'just man,' 'just action' and 'justly.' It is obvious, therefore, that when any one member of the co-ordinate series has been shown to be good or praiseworthy, all the rest will have been shown to be so also. For example, if 'justice' is something praiseworthy, then 'the just man' and 'the just action' and 'justly' will be something praiseworthy. And 'justly' will denote 'praiseworthily,' this being the same inflexion of 'praiseworthy' as 'justly' is of 'justice.'

You must look for the contrary not only in the case of the subject itself which is under discussion, but also in the case of its contrary. For instance, you can say that the good is not necessarily pleasant, for neither is the evil necessarily painful; or, if the latter part is true, so also is the former; and, if justice is knowledge, injustice is ignorance, and, if

(b) It must be observed whether the contrary is predicated also of the contrary.

ἐπιστημονικῶς καὶ ἐμπείρως, τὸ ἀδίκως ἀγνοούν-  
 τως καὶ ἀπείρως. εἰ δὲ ταῦτα μὴ, οὐδ' ἐκεῖνα,  
 καθάπερ ἐπὶ τοῦ νῦν ῥηθέντος· μᾶλλον γὰρ ἂν  
 φανείη τὸ ἀδίκως ἐμπείρως ἢ ἀπείρως. οὗτος  
 δ' ὁ τόπος εἴρηται πρότερον ἐν ταῖς τῶν ἐναντίων  
 ἀκολουθήσεσιν· οὐδὲν γὰρ ἄλλο νῦν ἀξιοῦμεν ἢ  
 15 τὸ ἐναντίον τῷ ἐναντίῳ ἀκολουθεῖν.

Ἔτι ἐπὶ τῶν γενέσεων καὶ φθορῶν καὶ ποιη-  
 τικῶν καὶ φθαρτικῶν, καὶ ἀναιροῦντι καὶ κατα-  
 σκευάζοντι. ὧν γὰρ αἱ γενέσεις τῶν ἀγαθῶν,  
 καὶ αὐτὰ ἀγαθὰ, καὶ εἰ αὐτὰ ἀγαθὰ, καὶ αἱ γενέσεις·  
 20 εἰ δὲ αἱ γενέσεις τῶν κακῶν, καὶ αὐτὰ τῶν κακῶν.  
 ἐπὶ δὲ τῶν φθορῶν ἀνάπαλιν· εἰ γὰρ αἱ φθοραὶ  
 τῶν ἀγαθῶν, αὐτὰ τῶν κακῶν, εἰ δ' αἱ φθοραὶ τῶν  
 κακῶν, αὐτὰ τῶν ἀγαθῶν. ὁ δ' αὐτὸς λόγος καὶ  
 ἐπὶ ποιητικῶν καὶ φθαρτικῶν· ὧν μὲν γὰρ τὰ  
 ποιητικὰ ἀγαθὰ, καὶ αὐτὰ τῶν ἀγαθῶν, ὧν δὲ  
 τὰ φθαρτικὰ ἀγαθὰ, αὐτὰ τῶν κακῶν.

25 X. Πάλιν ἐπὶ τῶν ὁμοίων, εἰ ὁμοίως ἔχει, οἷον  
 εἰ ἐπιστήμη μία πλειόνων, καὶ δόξα, καὶ εἰ τὸ ὄψιν  
 ἔχειν ὁρᾶν, καὶ τὸ ἀκοῇ ἔχειν ἀκούειν. ὁμοίως  
 δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων, καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ὄντων καὶ τῶν  
 δοκούντων. χρήσιμος δ' ὁ τόπος πρὸς ἄμφω.



'justly' is 'knowingly' and 'skilfully,' 'unjustly' is 'ignorantly' and 'unskilfully,' but if the latter part is untrue, so is also the former, as in the example above; for 'unjustly' would appear nearer to 'skilfully' than 'unskilfully.' This commonplace has been mentioned above in dealing with the sequence of contraries<sup>a</sup>; for at the moment we are not postulating anything more than that contrary follows contrary.

Further, you must examine the generations and corruptions of things and their creative and corruptive agencies, both for destructive and for constructive purposes. For things of which the generations are good things are themselves also good; and if they are themselves good, so also are their generations. If, however, their generations are bad things, they themselves are also bad things. Conversely, in the case of corruptions, if their corruptions are good things, they are themselves bad things, but if their corruptions are bad things, then they themselves are good things. The same argument holds good also of creative and corruptive agencies; for those things of which the creative agencies are good are themselves also good things, while those things of which the corruptive agencies are good are themselves bad things.

(c) The generation and corruption of a thing will show whether it is good or bad.

X. Again, you must take the case of like things and see if the same is true of them; for example, if one form of knowledge deals with several subjects, so also does one form of opinion, and if to have sight is to see, then also to have hearing is to hear, and so with the other examples both of things which are like and of things that are generally considered to be like. This commonplace is useful for both pur-

*Rules based on the likeness of things and on variation of degree:*  
(a) What is true of one of like things is also true of the others.

εἰ μὲν γὰρ ἐπὶ τινος τῶν ὁμοίων οὕτως ἔχει, καὶ  
 30 ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων τῶν ὁμοίων, εἰ δὲ ἐπὶ τινος μὴ,  
 οὐδ' ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων. σκοπεῖν δὲ καὶ εἰ ἐφ' ἐνὸς  
 καὶ εἰ ἐπὶ πολλῶν ὁμοίως ἔχει· ἐνιαχοῦ γὰρ δια-  
 φωνεῖ. οἷον εἰ τὸ ἐπίστασθαι διανοεῖσθαι, καὶ  
 τὸ πολλὰ ἐπίστασθαι πολλὰ διανοεῖσθαι. τοῦτο  
 δ' οὐκ ἀληθές· ἐπίστασθαι μὲν γὰρ ἐνδέχεται  
 35 πολλά, διανοεῖσθαι δ' οὔ. εἰ οὖν τοῦτο μὴ, οὐδ'  
 ἐκείνο τὸ ἐφ' ἐνός, ὅτι τὸ ἐπίστασθαι διανοεῖσθαι  
 ἐστίν.

Ἔτι ἐκ τοῦ μᾶλλον καὶ ἥττον. εἰσὶ δὲ τοῦ  
 μᾶλλον καὶ ἥττον τόποι τέσσαρες, εἰς μὲν εἰ  
 ἀκολουθεῖ τὸ μᾶλλον τῷ μᾶλλον, οἷον εἰ ἡδονή  
 115 α ἀγαθόν, καὶ ἡ μᾶλλον ἡδονή μᾶλλον ἀγαθόν, καὶ  
 εἰ τὸ ἀδικεῖν κακόν, καὶ τὸ μᾶλλον ἀδικεῖν μᾶλλον  
 κακόν. χρήσιμος δ' οὖν πρὸς ἀμφω ὁ τόπος·  
 εἰ μὲν γὰρ ἀκολουθεῖ τῇ τοῦ ὑποκειμένου ἐπιδόσει  
 ἡ τοῦ συμβεβηκότος ἐπίδοσις, καθάπερ εἴρηται,  
 β δὴλον ὅτι συμβέβηκεν, εἰ δὲ μὴ ἀκολουθεῖ, οὐ  
 συμβέβηκεν. τοῦτο δ' ἐπαγωγῇ ληπτέον. ἄλλος·  
 ἐνὸς περὶ δύο λεγομένου, εἰ ὧ μᾶλλον εἰκὸς ὑπάρ-  
 χειν μὴ ὑπάρχει, οὐδ' ὧ ἥττον, καὶ εἰ ὧ ἥττον  
 εἰκὸς ὑπάρχειν ὑπάρχει, καὶ ὧ μᾶλλον. πάλιν,

poses ; for if something is true of one of the like things, it is also true of the others, but if it is not true of one of them, it is not true of the others either. You must also see whether conditions are alike in the case of a single thing and a number of things ; for there is sometimes a discrepancy. For example, if to ' know ' a thing is to ' think of ' a thing, then to ' know many things ' is to ' think of many things.' But this is not so ; for it is possible to know many things and not to be thinking of them. If, therefore, the second statement is not true, then the first, which dealt with a single thing, namely, ' to know a thing ' is ' to think of a thing,' is not true either.

Moreover you must derive material from the greater and the less degrees. There are four commonplaces connected with the greater and the less degrees. One is to see whether the greater degree follows the greater degree ; for example, if pleasure is good, and greater pleasure is a greater good, and if to commit injustice is an evil, whether to commit a greater injustice is also a greater evil. This commonplace is useful for both purposes ; for, if the increase of the accident follows the increase of the subject, as described above, it is obvious that it is really an accident of the subject, but if it does not follow it, it is not an accident of it. This result must be obtained by induction. Here is another commonplace ; when one predicate is applied to two subjects, then, if it does not belong to the one to which there is the greater likelihood of its belonging, it does not belong either to the one to which it is less likely to belong ; and if it belongs to that to which it is less likely to belong, it belongs also to that to which it is more likely to belong. Again,

(b) Four arguments can be derived from the greater and the less degree.

115 a

δυοῖν περὶ ἐνὸς λεγομένων, εἰ τὸ μᾶλλον ὑπάρχειν  
 10 δοκοῦν μὴ ὑπάρχει, οὐδὲ τὸ ἥττον, ἢ εἰ τὸ ἥττον  
 δοκοῦν ὑπάρχειν ὑπάρχει, καὶ τὸ μᾶλλον. ἔτι  
 δυοῖν περὶ δύο λεγομένων εἰ τὸ θατέρῳ μᾶλλον  
 ὑπάρχειν δοκοῦν μὴ ὑπάρχει, οὐδὲ τὸ λοιπὸν τῷ  
 λοιπῷ, ἢ εἰ τὸ ἥττον δοκοῦν τῷ ἑτέρῳ ὑπάρχειν  
 ὑπάρχει, καὶ τὸ λοιπὸν τῷ λοιπῷ.

15 "Ἐτι ἐκ τοῦ ὁμοίως ὑπάρχειν ἢ δοκεῖν ὑπάρχειν  
 τριχῶς, καθάπερ ἐπὶ τοῦ μᾶλλον ἐπὶ τῶν ὕστερον  
 ῥηθέντων τριῶν τόπων ἐλέγετο. εἴτε γὰρ ἓν τι  
 δυσὶν ὁμοίως ὑπάρχει ἢ δοκεῖ ὑπάρχειν, εἰ τῷ  
 ἑτέρῳ μὴ ὑπάρχει, οὐδὲ τῷ ἑτέρῳ, εἰ δὲ θατέρῳ  
 20 ὑπάρχει, καὶ τῷ λοιπῷ· εἴτε δύο τῷ αὐτῷ ὁμοίως,  
 εἰ τὸ ἕτερον μὴ ὑπάρχει, οὐδὲ τὸ λοιπόν, εἰ δὲ  
 θάτερον, καὶ τὸ λοιπόν. τὸν αὐτὸν δὲ τρόπον  
 καὶ εἰ δύο δυσὶν ὁμοίως ὑπάρχει· εἰ γὰρ τὸ ἕτερον  
 τῷ ἑτέρῳ μὴ ὑπάρχει, οὐδὲ τὸ λοιπὸν τῷ λοιπῷ,  
 εἰ δὲ ὑπάρχει τὸ ἕτερον τῷ ἑτέρῳ, καὶ τὸ λοιπὸν  
 τῷ λοιπῷ.



if two predicates are applied to one subject, then, if the one which is more generally regarded as belonging to the one subject does not belong, neither does that which is less generally so regarded; or, if the predicate which is less generally regarded as belonging does belong, then so also does that which is more generally so regarded. Further, when two predicates are applied to two subjects, if the predicate which is more generally regarded as belonging to one of the subjects does not belong, neither does the other predicate belong to the other subject; or, if the predicate which is less generally regarded as belonging to the one subject does belong, then the other predicate also belongs to the other subject.

Furthermore, you can derive material from the fact that a predicate belongs, or is generally regarded as belonging, in a like degree, in three ways, namely, those described in the last three commonplaces already mentioned in connexion with the greater degree. For, if one predicate belongs, or is generally regarded as belonging, to two subjects in a like degree, then, if it does not belong to the one, it does not belong to the other either, and, if it belongs to the one, it belongs to the other also. Or, if two predicates belong in a like degree to the same subject, if the one does not belong, neither does the other, whereas, if the one does belong, so also does the other. The same thing also happens if two predicates belong in a like degree to two subjects; for if the one predicate does not belong to the one subject, neither does the other predicate belong to the other subject, while, if the one predicate belongs to the one subject, then the other predicate also belongs to the other subject.

(c) Three arguments can be derived from the like degree.

115 a

25 XI. Ἐκ μὲν οὖν τοῦ μᾶλλον καὶ ἥττον καὶ τοῦ  
 ὁμοίως τοσαυταχῶς ἐνδέχεται ἐπιχειρεῖν· ἔτι δ'  
 ἐκ τῆς προσθέσεως. εἰς ἕτερον πρὸς ἕτερον προσ-  
 τεθὲν ποιῇ ἀγαθὸν ἢ λευκόν, μὴ ὃν πρότερον  
 λευκὸν ἢ ἀγαθόν, τὸ προστεθὲν ἔσται λευκὸν ἢ  
 ἀγαθόν, οἷον περ καὶ τὸ ὅλον ποιεῖ. ἔτι εἰ πρὸς τὸ  
 30 ὑπάρχον προστεθὲν τι μᾶλλον ποιεῖ τοιοῦτον οἷον  
 ὑπῆρχε, καὶ αὐτὸ ἔσται τοιοῦτον. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ  
 ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων. χρησιμος δὲ οὐκ ἐν ᾧασιν ὁ  
 τόπος, ἀλλ' ἐν οἷς τὴν τοῦ μᾶλλον ὑπεροχὴν συμ-  
 βαίνει γίνεσθαι. οὗτος δὲ ὁ τόπος οὐκ ἀντιστρέφει  
 πρὸς τὸ ἀνασκευάζειν. εἰ γὰρ μὴ ποιεῖ τὸ προσ-  
 35 τιθέμενον ἀγαθόν, οὐδέπω δῆλον εἰ αὐτὸ μὴ  
 115 b ἀγαθόν· τὸ γὰρ ἀγαθὸν κακῶ προστιθέμενον οὐκ  
 ἐξ ἀνάγκης ἀγαθὸν τὸ ὅλον ποιεῖ, οὐδὲ λευκὸν  
 μέλανι.

Πάλιν εἴ τι μᾶλλον καὶ ἥττον λέγεται, καὶ  
 ἀπλῶς ὑπάρχει· τὸ γὰρ μὴ ὃν ἀγαθὸν ἢ λευκὸν  
 5 οὐδὲ μᾶλλον ἢ ἥττον ἀγαθὸν ἢ λευκὸν ῥηθήσεται·  
 τὸ γὰρ κακὸν οὐδενὸς μᾶλλον ἢ ἥττον ἀγαθόν,  
 ἀλλὰ μᾶλλον κακὸν ἢ ἥττον ῥηθήσεται. οὐκ ἀντι-  
 στρέφει δ' οὐδ' οὗτος ὁ τόπος πρὸς τὸ ἀνα-  
 σκευάσαι· πολλὰ γὰρ τῶν οὐ λεγομένων μᾶλλον  
 (καὶ ἥττον)<sup>1</sup> ἀπλῶς ὑπάρχει· ἄνθρωπος γὰρ οὐ  
 10 λέγεται μᾶλλον καὶ ἥττον, ἀλλ' οὐ διὰ τοῦτο οὐκ  
 ἔστιν ἄνθρωπος.

Τὸν αὐτὸν δὲ τρόπον σκεπτέον καὶ ἐπὶ τοῦ κατὰ

<sup>1</sup> καὶ ἥττον added by Wallies.

XI. Such then are the various ways in which you can argue from the greater and the less and the like degrees. You can, moreover, obtain arguments from the addition of one thing to another. If the addition of one thing to another makes the latter good or white, whereas it was not white or good before, then that which was added will be white or good, *i.e.*, it will have the quality which it also bestows on the whole. Further, if something added to the existing quality of a thing imparts a greater degree of the same existing quality, it will be itself also of that quality. So likewise in the other cases. But this commonplace is not always useful, but only where the result of the addition is that a greater intensification is produced. This commonplace is not convertible for purposes of destructive criticism. For, if that which is added does not make a thing good, it is not yet clear whether it is itself not good; for good added to evil does not necessarily make the whole good, nor does white added to black necessarily make the whole white.

Again, if anything is predicated in a greater or less degree, it also belongs absolutely; for what is not good (or white) will never be said to be good (or white) in a greater or less degree; for an evil thing will never be described as possessing a greater or less degree of goodness than something else, but only of evil. This commonplace also is not convertible for purposes of destructive criticism; for many predicates to which we cannot ascribe a greater or a less degree belong absolutely; for 'man' cannot be predicated in a greater or less degree, but a man does not on this account cease to be a man.

In the same manner you must examine predicates

*Further Rules:*  
(a) How to argue from the result of adding two things together.

(b) Anything which is predicated in a greater or less degree belongs absolutely.

(c) What is

115 b

τι καὶ ποτέ καὶ ποῦ· εἰ γὰρ κατὰ τι ἐνδέχεται,  
 καὶ ἀπλῶς ἐνδέχεται. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ τὸ ποτέ ἢ  
 ποῦ· τὸ γὰρ ἀπλῶς ἀδύνατον οὔτε κατὰ τι οὔτε  
 15 ποῦ οὔτε ποτέ ἐνδέχεται. ἔνστασις ὅτι κατὰ τι  
 μὲν εἰσι φύσει σπουδαῖοι, οἷον ἐλευθέριοι ἢ σω-  
 φρονικοί, ἀπλῶς δὲ οὐκ εἰσὶ φύσει σπουδαῖοι·  
 οὐδεὶς γὰρ φύσει φρόνιμος. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ποτέ  
 μὲν ἐνδέχεται τῶν φθαρτῶν τι μὴ φθαρῆναι,  
 ἀπλῶς δ' οὐκ ἐνδέχεται μὴ φθαρῆναι. τὸν αὐτὸν  
 20 δὲ τρόπον καὶ ποῦ μὲν συμφέρει τοιαύτῃ διαίτῃ  
 χρῆσθαι, οἷον ἐν τοῖς νοσώδεσι τόποις, ἀπλῶς δ'  
 οὐ συμφέρει. ἔτι δὲ ποῦ μὲν ἓνα μόνον δυνατόν  
 εἶναι, ἀπλῶς δὲ οὐ δυνατόν ἓνα μόνον εἶναι. τὸν  
 αὐτὸν δὲ τρόπον καὶ ποῦ μὲν καλὸν τὸν πατέρα  
 θύειν, οἷον ἐν Τριβαλλοῖς, ἀπλῶς δ' οὐ καλόν. ἢ  
 25 τοῦτο μὲν οὐ ποῦ σημαίνει ἀλλὰ τισίν; οὐδὲν γὰρ  
 διαφέρει ὅπου ἂν ᾧσιν· πανταχοῦ γὰρ αὐτοῖς ἔσται  
 καλὸν οὔσι Τριβαλλοῖς. πάλιν ποτέ μὲν συμφέρει  
 φαρμακεύεσθαι, οἷον ὅταν νοσῇ, ἀπλῶς δ' οὔ. ἢ  
 οὐδὲ τοῦτο ποτέ σημαίνει, ἀλλὰ τῷ διακειμένῳ  
 πως; οὐδὲν γὰρ διαφέρει ὅποτεοῦν, εἰς οὗτω  
 30 μόνον διακείμενος ἦ. τὸ δ' ἀπλῶς ἐστὶν ὁ μηδεὶς



which apply only in a certain respect or at a certain time or in a certain place ; for, if a predicate is possible in a certain respect, it is also possible absolutely. The same is true of predicates which are qualified in respect of time and place ; for what is impossible absolutely is not possible in any respect or in any place or at any time. An objection may be raised that in a certain respect men are naturally good, for example, they may be generous or inclined to self-control, but absolutely they are not by nature good, for no one is naturally prudent. Similarly, too, it is possible at a certain time for something which is corruptible not to be corrupted, but it is impossible for it to avoid corruption absolutely. In the same way, too, it is expedient in certain places to adopt a certain diet, *e.g.*, in unhealthy localities, but absolutely it is not expedient. Further, in certain places it is possible for a man to exist alone, but absolutely it is not possible for him to exist alone. In the same way, also, it is honourable in some places to sacrifice one's father, for example amongst the Triballi,<sup>a</sup> but absolutely it is not honourable. (Or is a relativity to persons rather than places indicated here ? For it makes no difference where they may be ; for, wherever they are, it will be honourable in their eyes because they are Triballi.) Again, it is expedient at certain times to take drugs, for example, when one is ill ; but it is not expedient absolutely. (Or is a relativity to a certain condition rather than to a certain time indicated here ? For it makes no difference when a man takes the drug, if only he is in a condition which requires it.) Now the ' absolutely ' honourable or its contrary, is that

predicated  
with a  
qualifica-  
tion can also  
be predi-  
cated  
absolutely.

<sup>a</sup> A Thracian tribe who dwelt near the Danube.

115 b

προσθεθέντος ἑρεῖς ὅτι καλὸν ἔστιν ἢ τὸ ἐναντίον.  
 οἷον τὸ τὸν πατέρα θύειν οὐκ ἑρεῖς καλὸν εἶναι,  
 ἀλλὰ τισὶ καλὸν εἶναι· οὐκ ἄρα ἀπλῶς καλόν.  
 ἀλλὰ τὸ τοὺς θεοὺς τιμᾶν ἑρεῖς καλὸν οὐδὲν  
 προστιθείς· ἀπλῶς γὰρ καλὸν ἔστιν. ὥστε ὁ ἄν  
 μηδενὸς προστιθεμένου δοκῇ εἶναι καλὸν ἢ αἰσχροὺς

35 ἢ ἄλλο τι τῶν τοιούτων, ἀπλῶς ῥηθήσεται.

which you will say is honourable or its contrary, without any additional qualification. For example, you will not say that to sacrifice one's father is honourable, but that 'in the eyes of some people' it is honourable; it is not, therefore, honourable absolutely. But you will say that to honour the gods is honourable without adding any qualification; for it is honourable absolutely. So whatever is generally regarded as honourable or disgraceful, or anything else of the kind, without any additional qualification, will be called so in an absolute sense.

Γ

116 a 4 I. Πότερον δ' αἰρετώτερον ἢ βέλτιον δυεῖν ἢ  
 πλειόνων, ἐκ τῶνδε σκεπτέον. πρῶτον δὲ διωρί-  
 5 σθω ὅτι τὴν σκέψιν ποιούμεθα οὐχ ὑπὲρ τῶν πολὺ  
 διεστώτων καὶ μεγάλην πρὸς ἄλληλα διαφορὰν  
 ἐχόντων (οὐδεὶς γὰρ ἀπορεῖ πότερον ἢ εὐδαιμονία  
 ἢ ὁ πλοῦτος αἰρετώτερον) ἀλλ' ὑπὲρ τῶν σύνεγγυς,  
 καὶ περὶ ὧν ἀμφισβητοῦμεν ποτέρῳ δεῖ προσ-  
 θέσθαι μᾶλλον, διὰ τὸ μηδεμίαν ὁρᾶν τοῦ ἑτέρου  
 10 πρὸς τὸ ἕτερον ὑπεροχὴν. δῆλον οὖν ἐπὶ τῶν  
 τοιούτων ὅτι δειχθείσης ὑπεροχῆς ἢ μιᾶς ἢ πλειό-  
 νων συγκαταθήσεται ἡ διάνοια ὅτι τοῦτ' ἐστὶν  
 αἰρετώτερον, ὁπότερον τυγχάνει αὐτῶν ὑπερέχον.

Πρῶτον μὲν οὖν τὸ πολυχρονιώτερον ἢ βεβαιό-  
 τερον αἰρετώτερον τοῦ ἥττον τοιούτου. καὶ ὁ  
 μᾶλλον ἂν ἔλοιτο ὁ φρόνιμος ἢ ὁ ἀγαθὸς ἀνὴρ, ἢ  
 15 ὁ νόμος ὁ ὀρθός, ἢ οἱ σπουδαῖοι περὶ ἕκαστα  
 αἰρούμενοι ἢ τοιοῦτοί εἰσιν, ἢ οἱ ἐν ἐκάστῳ γένει  
 ἐπιστήμονες, ἢ ὅσα οἱ πλείους ἢ πάντες, οἷον ἐν  
 ἱατρικῇ ἢ τεκτονικῇ ἃ οἱ πλείους τῶν ἱατρῶν ἢ  
 πάντες, ἢ ὅσα ὅλως οἱ πλείους ἢ πάντες ἢ πάντα,  
 382



### BOOK III

I. WHICH is more worthy of choice or better of two (or more) things, must be examined in the light of the following considerations. But first a limitation must be laid down that our inquiry does not concern things which are widely separated and show a considerable divergence from one another (for no one is at a loss to decide whether happiness or wealth is more worthy of choice), but it is concerned with things that are closely related and about which we discuss which we ought preferably to support, because we cannot detect any superiority of the one over the other. It is clear, therefore, that, as regards such things, if one or more points of superiority can be shown, the mind will agree that whichever of the two alternatives is actually superior is the more worthy of choice.

*Rules for the comparative valuation of two or more predicates:*

In the first place, then, that which is more permanent or constant is more worthy of choice than that which is less so, and also that which the prudent or good man would prefer, or the right law, or those who are excellent in any particular sphere when they make their choice as such, and those who are skilled in some particular subject, or what most of them, or all, would choose, for example, in medicine (or carpentry) what most, or all, doctors would choose, or generally those things which most people or every-

(a) The more durable and what commends itself to the wise and good is preferable.

20 οἶον τὰγαθόν· πάντα γὰρ τὰγαθοῦ ἐφίεται. δεῖ  
 δ' ἄγειν πρὸς ὃ τι ἂν ᾖ ἡ χρήσιμον τὸ ρήθησόμενον.  
 ἔστι δ' ἀπλῶς μὲν βέλτιον καὶ αἰρετώτερον τὸ  
 κατὰ τὴν βελτίω ἐπιστήμην, τινὶ δὲ τὸ κατὰ τὴν  
 οἰκείαν.

Ἔπειτα δὲ τὸ ὅπερ τόδε τι τοῦ μὴ ἐν γένει,  
 οἶον ἡ δικαιοσύνη τοῦ δικαίου· τὸ μὲν γὰρ ἐν γένει  
 τῷ ἀγαθῷ, τὸ δ' οὐ, καὶ τὸ μὲν ὅπερ ἀγαθόν, τὸ  
 25 δ' οὐ· οὐδὲν γὰρ λέγεται ὅπερ τὸ γένος, ὃ μὴ  
 τυγχάνει ἐν τῷ γένει ὄν, οἶον ὁ λευκὸς ἄνθρωπος  
 οὐκ ἔστιν ὅπερ χρῶμα. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν  
 ἄλλων.

Καὶ τὸ δι' αὐτὸ αἰρετὸν τοῦ δι' ἕτερον αἰρετοῦ  
 30 αἰρετώτερον, οἶον τὸ ὑγιαίνειν τοῦ γυμνάζεσθαι.  
 τὸ μὲν γὰρ δι' αὐτὸ αἰρετόν, τὸ δὲ δι' ἕτερον.  
 καὶ τὸ καθ' αὐτὸ τοῦ κατὰ συμβεβηκός, οἶον τὸ  
 τοὺς φίλους δικαίους εἶναι τοῦ τοὺς ἐχθρούς· τὸ  
 μὲν γὰρ καθ' αὐτὸ αἰρετόν, τὸ δὲ κατὰ συμ-  
 βεβηκός· τὸ γὰρ τοὺς ἐχθρούς δικαίους εἶναι κατὰ  
 35 συμβεβηκός αἰρούμεθα, ὅπως μηδὲν ἡμᾶς βλά-  
 πτωσιν. ἔστι δὲ τοῦτο ταῦτο τῷ πρὸ τούτου,  
 διαφέρει δὲ τῷ τρόπῳ· τὸ μὲν γὰρ τοὺς φίλους  
 δικαίους εἶναι δι' αὐτὸ αἰρούμεθα, καὶ εἰ μηδὲν

### TOPICA, III. I

body or all things would choose, for example, the good ; for everything aims at the good. You must direct the future course of the discussion in whatever direction may be advantageous ; but the absolute criterion of what is better and more worthy of choice is the better knowledge, though for the individual it may be his own particular knowledge.

Next, that which is of a certain kind is more worthy of choice than that which is not in the genus of that thing, for example, justice is more worthy of choice than the just man ; for the former is in the genus ' good,' but the latter is not, and the former is that which is called ' good,' but the latter is not. For nothing is called by the name of the genus which does not actually belong to the genus ; for example, the ' white man ' is not a ' colour ' and so likewise in the other cases.

(b) The genus is preferable to the accident.

Also, that which is worthy of choice for its own sake is more worthy of choice than that which is so for some other reason ; for example, health is more worthy of choice than exercise, for the former is worthy of choice for its own sake, the latter for the sake of something else. Also, that which is in itself worthy of choice is more worthy of choice than that which is accidentally so ; for example, that one's friends should be just is more worthy of choice than that one's enemies should be so, for the former is worthy of choice in itself, the latter accidentally ; for we choose that our enemies should be just only accidentally, in order that they may not do us harm. This rule is the same as the one which preceded it, but differs in the way in which it is stated ; for that our friends should be just is a thing which we choose for its own sake, even if it is not going to affect us

(c) What is desirable for its own sake is preferable.

116 a

ἡμῖν μέλλει ἔσσεσθαι, κὰν ἐν Ἰνδοῖς ὦσιν· τὸ δὲ τοὺς ἐχθροὺς δι' ἕτερον, ὅπως μηθὲν ἡμᾶς βλάπτωσιν.

116 b

Καὶ τὸ αἴτιον ἀγαθοῦ καθ' αὐτὸ τοῦ κατὰ συμβεβηκὸς αἰτίου, καθάπερ ἡ ἀρετὴ τῆς τύχης (ἡ μὲν γὰρ καθ' αὐτὴν ἡ δὲ κατὰ συμβεβηκὸς αἰτία τῶν ἀγαθῶν) καὶ εἴ τι ἄλλο τοιοῦτον. ὁμοίως δὲ  
 5 καὶ ἐπὶ τοῦ ἐναντίου· τὸ γὰρ καθ' αὐτὸ κακοῦ αἴτιον φευκτότερον τοῦ κατὰ συμβεβηκός, οἷον ἡ κακία καὶ ἡ τύχη· τὸ μὲν γὰρ καθ' αὐτὸ κακόν, ἡ δὲ τύχη κατὰ συμβεβηκός.

Καὶ τὸ ἀπλῶς ἀγαθὸν τοῦ τινὲς αἰρετώτερον, οἷον τὸ ὑγιάζεσθαι τοῦ τέμνεσθαι· τὸ μὲν γὰρ  
 10 ἀπλῶς ἀγαθόν, τὸ δὲ τινὲς τῷ δεομένῳ τομῆς. καὶ τὸ φύσει τοῦ μὴ φύσει, οἷον ἡ δικαιοσύνη τοῦ δικαίου· τὸ μὲν γὰρ φύσει, τὸ δ' ἐπίκτητον. καὶ τὸ τῷ βελτίονι καὶ τιμιωτέρῳ ὑπάρχον αἰρετώτερον, οἷον θεῷ ἢ ἀνθρώπῳ καὶ ψυχῇ ἢ σώματι. καὶ τὸ τοῦ βελτίονος ἴδιον βέλτιον ἢ τὸ τοῦ χεί-  
 15 ρονος, οἷον τὸ τοῦ θεοῦ ἢ τὸ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου· κατὰ μὲν γὰρ τὰ κοινὰ ἐν ἀμφοτέροις οὐδὲν διαφέρει ἀλλήλων, τοῖς δ' ἰδίῳ τὸ ἕτερον τοῦ ἑτέρου ὑπερέχει. καὶ τὸ ἐν βελτίοισιν ἢ προτέροις ἢ



### TOPICA, III. 1

at all, and even though they may be in India ; but we choose that our enemies should be just for another reason, namely, that they may do us no harm.

Also that which is in itself the cause of good is more worthy of choice than that which is accidentally the cause of good ; for example, virtue is more worthy of choice than luck (for the former is in itself the cause of good things but the latter only accidentally), and so with any other similar case. So also in the contrary case ; for what is in itself the cause of evil is more to be avoided than that which is only accidentally the cause of evil, as in the case of baseness and chance ; for the former is in itself an evil, while chance is only accidentally so.

Also, that which is good absolutely is more worthy of choice than that which is good for an individual, *e.g.*, the enjoyment of health than a surgical operation ; for the former is good absolutely, the latter is good only for an individual, namely, the man who requires an operation. Also, that which is naturally good is more worthy of choice than that which is not so by nature, *e.g.*, justice rather than the just man ; for the former is naturally good, whereas the goodness of the latter is acquired. Also what belongs to that which is better and more highly honoured is more worthy of choice, for example, that which belongs to God than that which belongs to man, and that which belongs to the soul than that which belongs to the body. Also the property of the better is better than that of the worse, for example, the property of God than that of man ; for in those things which are common to both there is no difference between them, but it is in their properties that the one is superior to the other. Also, that is better

(d) What is *per se* the cause of good is preferable to what is accidentally so.

(e) The absolutely and the naturally good are preferable.

(f) What belongs to the better is preferable.

τιμιωτέροις βέλτιον, οἷον ὑγίεια ἰσχύος καὶ κάλλους.  
 ἡ μὲν γὰρ ἐν ὑγροῖς καὶ ξηροῖς καὶ θερμοῖς καὶ  
 20 ψυχροῖς, ἀπλῶς δ' εἰπεῖν ἐξ ὧν πρώτων συν-  
 ἔστηκε τὸ ζῶον, τὰ δ' ἐν τοῖς ὑστέροις· ἡ μὲν γὰρ  
 ἰσχύς ἐν τοῖς νεύροις καὶ ὀστοῖς, τὸ δὲ κάλλος τῶν  
 μελῶν τις συμμετρία δοκεῖ εἶναι. καὶ τὸ τέλος  
 τῶν πρὸς τὸ τέλος αἰρετώτερον δοκεῖ εἶναι, καὶ  
 δυοῖν τὸ ἔγγιον τοῦ τέλους. καὶ ὅλως τὸ πρὸς  
 25 τὸ τοῦ βίου τέλος αἰρετώτερον μᾶλλον ἢ τὸ πρὸς  
 ἄλλο τι, οἷον τὸ πρὸς εὐδαιμονίαν συντεῖνον ἢ τὸ  
 πρὸς φρόνησιν. καὶ τὸ δυνατόν τοῦ ἀδυνάτου.  
 ἔτι δύο ποιητικῶν, οὗ τὸ τέλος βέλτιον. ποιη-  
 τικοῦ δὲ καὶ τέλους ἐκ τοῦ ἀνάλογον, ὅταν πλείονι  
 ὑπερέχῃ τὸ τέλος τοῦ τέλους ἢ ἐκείνο τοῦ οἰκείου  
 ποιητικοῦ, οἷον εἰ ἡ εὐδαιμονία πλείονι ὑπερέχει  
 30 ὑγιείας ἢ ὑγίεια ὑγεινοῦ, τὸ ποιητικὸν εὐδαι-  
 μονίας βέλτιον ὑγιείας. ὅσω γὰρ ἡ εὐδαιμονία  
 ὑγιείας ὑπερέχει, τοσούτῳ καὶ τὸ ποιητικὸν τὸ  
 τῆς εὐδαιμονίας τοῦ ὑγεινοῦ ὑπερέχει. ἡ δὲ  
 ὑγίεια τοῦ ὑγεινοῦ ἐλάττονι ὑπερεῖχεν, ὥστε  
 πλείονι ὑπερέχει τὸ ποιητικὸν εὐδαιμονίας τοῦ

<sup>a</sup> It is difficult to see what is the syntax of the words ποιη-  
 τικοῦ δὲ τέλους ἐκ τοῦ ἀνάλογον, but the meaning is clear.

### TOPICA, III. I

which is inherent in things which are better or prior or more highly honoured; for example, health is better than strength or beauty. For health is inherent in moisture and dryness and in heat and cold, in a word in all the primary elements of which the living creature consists, whereas the others are inherent in secondary constituents; for strength is generally considered to reside in the sinews and bones, and beauty to be in a certain symmetry of the limbs. Also, the end is usually regarded as more worthy of choice than the means to the end, and of two means that which is nearer to the end. And, to speak generally, the means which has life as its end is more worthy of choice than that which has some other end; for example, that which tends to happiness is more worthy of choice than that which tends to prudence. Also the practicable is more worthy of choice than the impracticable. Further, of two productive agencies, that of which the end is better is more worthy of choice. We can judge between a productive agency and an end by drawing up a proportion,<sup>a</sup> when the superiority of one end over the other is greater than that of the latter over its own productive agency. For example, if happiness has a greater superiority over health than health has over the health-giving, then that which produces happiness is superior to health. For that which produces happiness is superior to the health-giving in the same degree as happiness is superior to health. But health shows less superiority over the health-giving; therefore that which produces happiness shows greater superiority over the health-giving than

(g) The end is preferable to the means, and the practicable to the impracticable.

Pacius renders, *cum alterum sit effectivum, alterum finis, ex proportione iudicandum est*. Wallies reads ποιητικόν.

116 b

35 ὑγίεινόν ἢ ἢ ὑγίειά τοῦ ὑγίεινόν. δῆλον ἄρα ὅτι αἰρετώτερον τὸ ποιητικὸν εὐδαιμονίας τῆς ὑγείας· τοῦ γὰρ αὐτοῦ πλείονι ὑπερέχει.

Ἔτι τὸ κάλλιον καθ' αὐτὸ καὶ τιμιώτερον καὶ ἐπαινετώτερον, οἷον φιλία πλούτου καὶ δικαιοσύνη ἰσχύος. τὰ μὲν γὰρ καθ' αὐτὰ τῶν τιμίων καὶ  
117 a ἐπαινετῶν, τὰ δ' οὐ καθ' αὐτὰ ἀλλὰ δι' ἕτερον· οὐδεὶς γὰρ τιμῇ τὸν πλοῦτον δι' ἑαυτὸν ἀλλὰ δι' ἕτερον, τὴν δὲ φιλίαν καθ' αὐτό, καὶ εἰ μηδὲν μέλλει ἡμῖν ἕτερον ἂπ' αὐτῆς ἔσεσθαι.

5 II. Ἔτι ὅταν δύο τινὰ ἢ σφόδρα ἀλλήλοις παραπλήσια καὶ μὴ δυνώμεθα ὑπεροχὴν μηδεμίαν συνιδεῖν τοῦ ἑτέρου πρὸς τὸ ἕτερον, ὁρᾶν ἂπὸ τῶν παρεπομένων· ὧ γὰρ ἔπεται μείζον ἀγαθόν, τοῦθ' αἰρετώτερον. ἂν δ' ἢ τὰ ἐπόμενα κακά, ὧ τὸ ἔλαττον ἀκολουθεῖ κακόν, τοῦθ' αἰρετώτερον.

10 ὄντων γὰρ ἀμφοτέρων αἰρετῶν οὐδὲν κωλύει δυσχερές τι παρέπεσθαι. διχῶς δ' ἀπὸ τοῦ ἔπεσθαι ἢ σκέψις· καὶ γὰρ πρότερον καὶ ὕστερον ἔπεται, οἷον τῷ μανθάνοντι τὸ μὲν ἀγνοεῖν πρότερον, τὸ δ' ἐπίστασθαι ὕστερον. βέλτιον δ' ὥς ἐπὶ τὸ πολὺ τὸ ὕστερον ἐπόμενον. λαμβάνειν οὖν  
15 τῶν ἐπομένων ὁπότερον ἂν ἢ χρήσιμον.

Ἔτι τὰ πλείω ἀγαθὰ τῶν ἐλαττόνων, ἢ ἀπλῶς, ἢ ὅταν τὰ ἕτερα ἐν τοῖς ἑτέροις ὑπάρχη, τὰ ἐλάττω ἐν τοῖς πλείοσιν. ἔνστασις, εἴ που θάτερον θατέρου



### TOPICA, III. I-II

health shows over the health-giving. It is clear, then, that what produces happiness is more worthy of choice than health ; for it shows a greater superiority over the same thing.

Further, that which is in itself more noble and more valued and more praiseworthy is more worthy of choice ; for example, friendship is more worthy of choice than wealth, and justice than strength. For the former in themselves are among things valued and praiseworthy, while the latter are valued and praiseworthy not in themselves but for some other reason ; for no one values wealth for its own sake but for some other reason, but we value friendship for its own sake, even if we are not likely to get anything else from it.

II. Further, when two things are very similar to one another and we cannot detect any superiority in the one over the other, we must judge from their consequences ; for that of which the consequence is a greater good is more worthy of choice, and, if the consequences are evil, that is more worthy of choice which is followed by the lesser evil. For, if both are worthy of choice, there is nothing to prevent some unpleasant secondary consequence. The examination based on consequence takes two forms ; for a consequence can be prior or posterior in time ; for example, for the man who learns, ignorance is prior, knowledge posterior. The posterior consequence is usually better. You should, then, take whichever of the consequences is advantageous.

Further, a greater number of good things is preferable to a lesser number, either absolutely or when the one exists in the other, *i.e.*, the lesser number is included in the greater. An objection may be

(h) What is *per se* more noble, valued and praiseworthy is preferable.

Rules of preference can be based on :  
(a) Antecedents and consequences.

(b) Numbers.

117 a

χάριν· οὐδὲν γὰρ αἰρετώτερα τὰ ἄμφω τοῦ ἐνός,  
 20 οἷον τὸ ὑγιαίνειν καὶ ἡ ὑγίεια τῆς ὑγείας,  
 ἐπειδὴ τὸ ὑγιαίνειν τῆς ὑγείας ἕνεκεν αἰρούμεθα.  
 καὶ μὴ ἀγαθὰ δὲ ἀγαθῶν οὐδὲν κωλύει εἶναι  
 αἰρετώτερα, οἷον εὐδαιμονίαν καὶ ἄλλο τι ὃ μὴ  
 ἐστὶν ἀγαθὸν δικαιοσύνης καὶ ἀνδρίας. καὶ ταῦτα  
 μεθ' ἡδονῆς μᾶλλον ἢ ἄνευ ἡδονῆς, καὶ ταῦτα  
 25 μετ' ἀλυπίας μᾶλλον ἢ μετὰ λύπης.

Καὶ ἕκαστον ἐν ᾧ καιρῷ μείζον δύναται, ἐν  
 τούτῳ καὶ αἰρετώτερον, οἷον τὸ ἀλύπως ἐν τῷ  
 γήρᾳ μᾶλλον ἢ ἐν τῇ νεότητι· μείζον γὰρ ἐν τῷ  
 γήρᾳ δύναται. κατὰ ταῦτα δὲ καὶ ἡ φρόνησις ἐν  
 30 τῷ γήρᾳ αἰρετώτερον· οὐδεὶς γὰρ τοὺς νέους  
 αἰρεῖται ἡγεμόνας διὰ τὸ μὴ ἀξιούν φρονίμους  
 εἶναι. ἡ δ' ἀνδρία ἀνάπαλιν· ἐν τῇ νεότητι γὰρ  
 ἀναγκαιοτέρα ἢ κατὰ τὴν ἀνδρίαν ἐνέργεια. ὁμοίως  
 δὲ καὶ ἡ σωφροσύνη· μᾶλλον γὰρ οἱ νέοι τῶν  
 πρεσβυτέρων ὑπὸ τῶν ἐπιθυμιῶν ἐνοχλοῦνται.

35 Καὶ ὃ ἐν παντὶ καιρῷ ἢ ἐν τοῖς πλείστοις χρή-  
 σιμώτερον, οἷον δικαιοσύνη καὶ σωφροσύνη ἀν-  
 δρίας· αἱ μὲν γὰρ αἰεὶ ἢ δὲ ποτὲ χρησίμη. καὶ  
 ὃ πάντων ἐχόντων μηδὲν θατέρου δεόμεθα, ἢ ὃ  
 ἐχόντων προσδεόμεθα τοῦ λοιποῦ, καθάπερ ἐπὶ  
 δικαιοσύνης καὶ ἀνδρίας· δικαίων μὲν γὰρ πάντων

<sup>a</sup> i.e. not both of them good.

made if a case occurs in which one thing is preferred for the sake of another ; for the two things taken together are in no way preferable to the one. For example, to become healthy *plus* health is not preferable to health alone, since we choose to become healthy for the sake of health. Also, there is nothing to prevent even things which are not good <sup>a</sup> from being preferable to things which are good ; for example, happiness *plus* something else which is not good may be preferable to justice *plus* courage. Also, the same things are more worthy of choice when pleasure is added than when it is absent, and when accompanied by freedom from pain than when attended by pain.

Also, everything is preferable at the time when it has greater importance ; for example, freedom from pain in old age is preferable to freedom from pain in youth, for it is more important in old age. And on this principle also prudence is preferable in old age ; for no one chooses young men as leaders, because he does not expect them to be prudent. The converse holds good of courage ; for in youth courageous activity is more necessary. So too with self-control ; for the young are more troubled by their passions than the old.

Also, that is preferable which is more useful on every occasion or on most occasions, for example, justice and self-control are preferable to courage, for the two first are always useful, but courage only sometimes. Also, of two things, that one, the possession of which by all causes us to have no need of the other, is preferable to the one the universal possession of which leaves us still in need of the other. Take, for example, justice and courage ; if

(c) Times  
and  
seasons.

(d) Self-  
sufficiency.

117 b ὄντων οὐδὲν χρήσιμος ἢ ἀνδρία, ἀνδρείων δὲ πάντων ὄντων χρήσιμος ἢ δικαιοσύνη.

Ἔτι ἐκ τῶν φθορῶν καὶ τῶν ἀποβολῶν καὶ τῶν γενέσεων καὶ τῶν λήψεων καὶ τῶν ἐναντίων· ὧν γὰρ αἱ φθοραὶ φευκτότεραι, αὐτὰ αἰρετώτερα. 5 ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἀποβολῶν καὶ τῶν ἐναντίων· οὗ γὰρ ἢ ἀποβολὴ ἢ τὸ ἐναντίον φευκτότερον, αὐτὸ αἰρετώτερον. ἐπὶ δὲ τῶν γενέσεων καὶ τῶν λήψεων ἀνάπαλιν· ὧν γὰρ αἱ λήψεις καὶ αἱ γενέσεις αἰρετώτεραι, καὶ αὐτὰ αἰρετώτερα.

10 Ἄλλος τόπος, τὸ ἐγγύτερον τὰγαθοῦ βέλτιον καὶ αἰρετώτερον, καὶ τὸ ὁμοιότερον τὰγαθῷ, οἷον ἢ δικαιοσύνη δικαίου. καὶ τὸ τῷ βελτίονι αὐτοῦ ὁμοιότερον, καθάπερ τὸν Αἴαντα τοῦ Ὀδυσσέως φασὶ βελτίῳ τινὲς εἶναι, διότι ὁμοιότερος τῷ

15 Ἀχιλλεῖ. ἔνστασις τούτου ὅτι οὐκ ἀληθές· οὐδὲν γὰρ κωλύει, μὴ ἢ βέλτιστος ὁ Ἀχιλλεύς, ταύτῃ ὁμοιότερον εἶναι τὸν Αἴαντα, τοῦ ἐτέρου ὄντος μὲν ἀγαθοῦ μὴ ὁμοίου δέ. σκοπεῖν δὲ καὶ εἰ ἐπὶ τὸ γελοιότερον εἶη ὁμοιον, καθάπερ ὁ πίθηκος τῷ ἀνθρώπῳ, τοῦ ἵππου μὴ ὄντος ὁμοίου· οὐ γὰρ κάλλιον ὁ πίθηκος, ὁμοιότερον δὲ τῷ ἀνθρώπῳ.

20 πάλιν ἐπὶ δυοῖν εἰ τὸ μὲν τῷ βελτίονι τὸ δὲ τῷ χείρονι ὁμοιότερον, εἶη ἂν βέλτιον τὸ τῷ βελτίονι ὁμοιότερον. ἔχει δὲ καὶ τοῦτο ἔνστασιν· οὐδὲν γὰρ κωλύει τὸ μὲν τῷ βελτίονι ἡρέμα ὁμοιον εἶναι,



all men were just, there would be no use for courage, but if all men were brave, justice would still be useful.

Further, arguments can be derived from the corruptions, losses, generations, acquisitions and contraries of things ; for things of which the corruption is more to be avoided are themselves preferable. Similarly, too, in the case of losses and contraries ; for that of which the loss or the contrary is more to be avoided is itself preferable. The converse is true of generation and acquisition ; for things of which the acquisition and generation is preferable are themselves preferable.

(e) Corruptions, losses, generations, acquisitions and contraries.

Another commonplace is that what is nearer to the good is better and preferable, and also what is more like the good ; for example, justice is preferable to a just man. Also that is preferable which is more like something better than itself ; for example, some people say that Ajax was a better man than Odysseus, because he was more like Achilles. To this an objection may be raised that it is not true ; for nothing prevents Ajax from being more like Achilles, but not in respect of that in which Achilles was best, while Odysseus might be a good man though not resembling Achilles. We must also see whether the resemblance tends towards the ridiculous, for example, that of a monkey to a man, whereas the horse bears no resemblance ; for the monkey is not more handsome than the horse, although he is more like a man. Again, of two things, if the one is more like that which is better and the other more like that which is worse, then that which is like the better would itself be better. Here also an objection is possible ; for there is no reason why the one should not resemble the better in a slight degree only,

(f) Likeness to some ideal pattern.

117 b

τὸ δὲ τῷ χείρονι σφόδρα, οἷον εἰ ὁ μὲν Αἴας τῷ  
 Ἀχιλλεῖ ἡρέμα, ὁ δ' Ὀδυσσεὺς τῷ Νέστορι  
 25 σφόδρα. καὶ εἰ τὸ μὲν τῷ βελτίονι ὁμοιον ἐπὶ τὰ  
 χείρω ὁμοιον εἶη, τὸ δὲ τῷ χείρονι ἐπὶ τὰ βελτίω,  
 καθάπερ ἵππος ὄνῳ καὶ πίθηκος ἀνθρώπῳ.

Ἄλλος, τὸ ἐπιφανέστερον τοῦ ἥττον τοιούτου, καὶ  
 τὸ χαλεπώτερον· μᾶλλον γὰρ ἀγαπῶμεν ἔχοντες  
 30 ἃ μὴ ἔστι ραδίως λαβεῖν. καὶ τὸ ἰδιαίτερον τοῦ  
 κοινοτέρου. καὶ τὸ τοῖς κακοῖς ἀκοινωνητότερον·  
 αἰρετώτερον γὰρ ᾧ μηδεμία δυσχέρεια ἀκολουθεῖ  
 ἢ ᾧ ἀκολουθεῖ.

Ἔτι εἰ ἀπλῶς τοῦτο τούτου βέλτιον, καὶ τὸ  
 βέλτιστον τῶν ἐν τούτῳ βέλτιον τοῦ ἐν τῷ ἑτέρῳ  
 35 βελτίστου, οἷον εἰ βέλτιον ἄνθρωπος ἵππου, καὶ  
 ὁ βέλτιστος ἄνθρωπος τοῦ βελτίστου ἵππου βελ-  
 τίων. καὶ εἰ τὸ βέλτιστον τοῦ βελτίστου βέλτιον,  
 καὶ ἀπλῶς τοῦτο τούτου βέλτιον, οἷον εἰ ὁ βέλ-  
 τιστος ἄνθρωπος τοῦ βελτίστου ἵππου βελτίων,  
 καὶ ἀπλῶς ἄνθρωπος ἵππου βελτίων.

118 a Ἔτι ὧν ἔστι τοὺς φίλους μετασχεῖν, αἰρετώτερα  
 ἢ ὧν μὴ. καὶ ἃ πρὸς τὸν φίλον πράξαι μᾶλλον  
 βουλόμεθα ἢ ἃ πρὸς τὸν τυχόντα, ταῦτα αἰρε-  
 τώτερα, οἷον τὸ δικαιοπραγεῖν καὶ εὖ ποιεῖν μᾶλλον  
 5 ἢ τὸ δοκεῖν· τοὺς γὰρ φίλους εὖ ποιεῖν βουλόμεθα  
 μᾶλλον ἢ δοκεῖν, τοὺς δὲ τυχόντας ἀνάπαλιν.

while the other strongly resembles the worse ; for example, Ajax may slightly resemble Achilles, while Odysseus strongly resembles Nestor. Also, that which resembles the better may resemble it for the worse, while that which resembles the worse may resemble it for the better, as in the likeness of the horse to the donkey and that of a monkey to a man.

Another commonplace is that what is more conspicuous is preferable to what is less conspicuous, also that which is more difficult ; for we value more highly the possession of such things as are not easy to obtain. Also, what is more peculiar to ourselves is preferable to what is more common. We also prefer that which has less communion with evil ; for that which is not accompanied by vexation is preferable to that which is so accompanied.

(g) Various other desirable qualities and criteria.

Further, if A be absolutely better than B, then also the best specimen of A is better than the best specimen of B ; for example, if man is better than horse, then also the best man is better than the best horse. Also, if the best in one class (A) is better than the best in the other class (B), then also A is absolutely better than B ; for example, if the best man is better than the best horse, then also man is better than horse absolutely.

Further, those things in which our friends can share are preferable to those in which they cannot share. Also, things are preferable which we would rather do to a friend than to any chance person. For example, to act justly and to do good are preferable to merely seeming to do so ; for we would rather actually do good to our friends than only seem to do so, whereas the converse is true of our attitude to chance persons.

Καὶ τὰ ἐκ περιουσίας τῶν ἀναγκαίων βελτίω,  
 ἐνίοτε δὲ καὶ αἰρετώτερα· βέλτιον γὰρ τοῦ ζῆν  
 τὸ εὖ ζῆν, τὸ δὲ εὖ ζῆν ἐστὶν ἐκ περιουσίας, αὐτὸ  
 δὲ τὸ ζῆν ἀναγκαῖον. ἐνίοτε δὲ τὰ βελτίω οὐχὶ  
 10 καὶ αἰρετώτερα· οὐ γὰρ εἰ βελτίω, ἀναγκαῖον καὶ  
 αἰρετώτερα· τὸ γοῦν φιλοσοφεῖν βέλτιον τοῦ  
 χρηματίζεσθαι, ἀλλ' οὐχ αἰρετώτερον τῷ ἐνδεεῖ  
 τῶν ἀναγκαίων. τὸ δ' ἐκ περιουσίας ἐστίν, ὅταν  
 ὑπαρχόντων τῶν ἀναγκαίων ἄλλα τινὰ προσκατα-  
 σκευάζεται τις τῶν καλῶν. σχεδὸν δὲ ἴσως  
 αἰρετώτερον τὸ ἀναγκαῖόν ἐστι, βέλτιον δὲ τὸ ἐκ  
 15 περιουσίας.

Καὶ ὃ μὴ ἔστι παρ' ἄλλον πορίσασθαι ἢ ὃ ἔστι  
 καὶ παρ' ἄλλον, οἷον πέπονθεν ἡ δικαιοσύνη πρὸς  
 τὴν ἀνδρίαν. καὶ εἰ τόδε μὲν ἄνευ τοῦδε αἰρετόν,  
 τόδε δὲ ἄνευ τοῦδε μή, οἷον δύνاميς ἄνευ φρονή-  
 20 σεως οὐχ αἰρετόν, φρόνησις δ' ἄνευ δυνάμεως  
 αἰρετόν. καὶ δυοῖν εἰ θάτερον ἀρνούμεθα, ἵνα τὸ  
 λοιπὸν δόξῃ ἡμῖν ὑπάρχειν, ἐκεῖνο αἰρετώτερον  
 ὃ βουλόμεθα δοκεῖν ὑπάρχειν, οἷον φιλοπονεῖν  
 ἀρνούμεθα, ἵν' εὐφυεῖς εἶναι δόξωμεν.

"Ἐτι οὐ τῇ ἀπουσίᾳ ἡττον ἐπιτιμητέον δυσ-  
 25 φοροῦσι, τοῦτο αἰρετώτερον. καὶ οὐ τῇ ἀπουσίᾳ  
 μὴ δυσφοροῦντι μᾶλλον ἐπιτιμητέον, τοῦτο αἰρε-  
 τώτερον.

III. "Ἐτι τῶν ὑπὸ τὸ αὐτὸ εἶδος τὸ ἔχον τὴν  
 398



### TOPICA, III. II-III

Also, superfluities are better than bare necessities, and sometimes also preferable. For living a good life is better than merely living ; and a good life is a superfluity, while life itself is a necessity. Sometimes better things are not also preferable ; for it does not follow that, if they are better, they are also preferable. For example, to be a philosopher is better than to make money, but it is not preferable for him who lacks the necessities of life. Superfluity exists, when, being already in possession of the necessities of life, a man tries to procure some noble accessories. We shall perhaps not be far wrong if we say that the necessary is preferable, while the superfluous is better.

Also, that which cannot be procured from another is preferable to that which can also be procured from another ; this, for example, is true of justice as compared with courage. Also A is preferable to B, if A is an object of choice without B, while B is not an object of choice without A ; for example, power is not an object of choice without prudence, but prudence is an object of choice without power. Also, if we deny the possession of one of two things in order that we may seem to possess the other, that one is preferable which we wish to seem to possess ; for example, we deny that we work hard in order that we may be thought gifted.

Furthermore, that is preferable at the absence of which it is less reprehensible to be annoyed ; also that is preferable at whose absence it is more reprehensible not to be annoyed.

III. Furthermore, of the things which fall under the same species, that which possesses the peculiar

*Further  
rules for the  
comparative*

118 a

οἰκείαν ἀρετὴν τοῦ μὴ ἔχοντος. ἄμφω δ' ἐχόντων  
τὸ μᾶλλον ἔχον.

30 "Ἐτι εἰ τὸ μὲν ποιεῖ ἀγαθὸν ἐκείνο ᾧ ἂν παρῇ,  
τὸ δὲ μὴ ποιεῖ, τὸ ποιοῦν αἰρετώτερον, καθάπερ  
καὶ θερμότερον τὸ θερμαῖνον τοῦ μῆ. εἰ δ' ἄμφω  
ποιεῖ, τὸ μᾶλλον ποιοῦν ἢ εἰ τὸ βέλτιον καὶ  
κυριώτερον ποιεῖ ἀγαθόν, οἷον εἰ τὸ μὲν τὴν  
ψυχὴν τὸ δὲ τὸ σῶμα.

35 "Ἐτι ἀπὸ τῶν πτώσεων καὶ τῶν χρήσεων καὶ  
τῶν πράξεων καὶ τῶν ἔργων, καὶ ταῦτα δὲ ἀπ'  
ἐκείνων· ἀκολουθεῖ γὰρ ἀλλήλοις, οἷον εἰ τὸ  
δικαίως αἰρετώτερον τοῦ ἀνδρείως, καὶ ἡ δικαιο-  
σύνη τῆς ἀνδρίας αἰρετώτερον· καὶ εἰ ἡ δικαιοσύνη  
τῆς ἀνδρίας αἰρετώτερον, καὶ τὸ δικαίως τοῦ ἀν-  
δρείως. παραπλησίως δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων.

118 b

"Ἐτι εἴ τινος τοῦ αὐτοῦ τὸ μὲν μείζον ἀγαθόν  
ἔστι τὸ δὲ ἔλαττον, αἰρετώτερον τὸ μείζον. ἢ  
εἰ μείζονος μείζον θάτερον. ἀλλὰ καὶ εἰ δύο τινα  
τινὸς εἴη αἰρετώτερα, τὸ μᾶλλον αἰρετώτερον τοῦ  
5 ἥττον αἰρετωτέρου αἰρετώτερον. ἔτι οὗ ἢ ὑπερ-  
βολὴ τῆς ὑπερβολῆς αἰρετωτέρα, καὶ αὐτὸ αἰρε-  
τώτερον, οἷον φιλία χρημάτων· αἰρετωτέρα γὰρ  
ἢ τῆς φιλίας ὑπερβολὴ τῆς τῶν χρημάτων. καὶ  
οὗ μᾶλλον ἂν ἔλοιτο αὐτὸς αὐτῷ αἷτιος εἶναι ἢ  
οὗ ἕτερον, οἷον τοὺς φίλους τῶν χρημάτων.

<sup>a</sup> That is, we must decide whether one thing (*e.g.*, justice) is preferable to another (*e.g.*, courage) by considering how other words containing these ideas are used. These may be adverbs which are πτώσεις (*cf.* 106 b 29, note), or denote action or actual deed; χρήσεις seems to refer to the different usages of a word.

virtue of the species is preferable to that which does not possess it. If both possess it, then that which possesses it in a greater degree is preferable.

*valuation of two predicates:*  
(a) Preference of predicate which (1) possesses the peculiar virtue of the species, or (2) produces the greater good.

Furthermore, if one thing does good to anything in which it is present and another does not, then that which does good is preferable (just as that which warms is warmer than that which does not). If both do good, that which does greater good, or does good to what is better or more important, is preferable, for example, if one thing does good to the soul the other to the body.

Furthermore, we can judge things from their inflected forms, uses, actions and deeds,<sup>a</sup> and also *vice versa*; for they follow one another. For example, if 'justly' is preferable to 'courageously,' then 'justice' also is preferable to 'courage'; and if 'justice' is preferable to 'courage,' then 'justly' too is preferable to 'courageously.' And similarly too in the other cases.

(b) Consideration of inflexions and uses of predicates.

Furthermore, if one thing is a greater and the other a lesser good than the same thing, the greater good is preferable; or if one of them is greater than a greater good. Moreover also, if two things were to be preferable to something, that which was preferable to a greater degree would be preferable to that which is preferable to a less degree. Further, if the excess of one thing is preferable to the excess of the other, it is itself also preferable. For example, friendship is preferable to money; for excess of friendship is preferable to excess of money. Also, that of which a man would prefer to be the cause by his own act is preferable to that of which he would wish another to be the cause; for example, friends are preferable to money.

(c) Comparison with some common standard.

118 b

10 Ἔτι ἐκ τῆς προσθέσεως, εἰ τῷ αὐτῷ προστιθέμενόν τι τὸ ὅλον αἰρετώτερον ποιεῖ. εὐλαβεῖσθαι δὲ δεῖ προτείνειν ἐφ' ὧν τῷ μὲν ἑτέρῳ τῶν προστιθεμένων χρήται τὸ κοινὸν ἢ ἄλλως πως συνεργόν ἐστι, τῷ δὲ λοιπῷ μὴ χρήται μηδὲ συνεργόν ἐστιν, οἷον πρίονα καὶ δρέπανον μετὰ  
 15 τεκτονικῆς· αἰρετώτερον γὰρ ὁ πρίων συνδυαζόμενος, ἀπλῶς δὲ οὐχ αἰρετώτερον. πάλιν εἰ ἐλάττονι προστεθέν τι τὸ ὅλον μείζον ποιεῖ. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐκ τῆς ἀφαιρέσεως· οὐ γὰρ ἀφαιρεθέντος ἀπὸ τοῦ αὐτοῦ τὸ λειπόμενον ἔλαττον, ἐκείνο μείζον ἂν εἴη, ὅποτε ἀφαιρεθὲν τὸ λειπόμενον ἔλαττον ποιεῖ.

20 Καὶ εἰ τὸ μὲν δι' αὐτὸ τὸ δὲ διὰ τὴν δόξαν αἰρετόν, οἷον ὑγίεια κάλλους. ὅρος δὲ τοῦ πρὸς δόξαν τὸ μηδενὸς συνειδότος μὴ ἂν σπουδάσαι ὑπάρχειν. καὶ εἰ τὸ μὲν δι' αὐτὸ καὶ διὰ τὴν δόξαν αἰρετόν, τὸ δὲ διὰ θάτερον μόνον. καὶ ὅποτερον μᾶλλον δι' αὐτὸ τίμιον, τοῦτο καὶ βέλτιον  
 25 καὶ αἰρετώτερον. τιμιώτερον δ' ἂν εἴη καθ' αὐτό, ὃ μηδενὸς ἄλλου μέλλοντος ὑπάρξειν δι' αὐτὸ αἰρούμεθα μᾶλλον.

Ἔτι διελέσθαι ποσαχῶς τὸ αἰρετόν λέγεται καὶ



### TOPICA, III. III

Furthermore, you can argue by means of an addition, and see if the addition of one predicate to the same thing as that to which another is added makes the whole more worthy of choice. But you must beware of making a proposition in cases where the common term uses, or in some other way co-operates with, one of the things added, but does not use or co-operate with the other. For example, if you were to combine a saw or a sickle with the art of carpentry ; for the saw in conjunction is preferable, but not preferable absolutely. Again, the same is true if something added to a lesser good makes the whole a greater good. So likewise in the case of subtraction also ; for something, the subtraction of which from the same thing as that from which another is subtracted makes the remainder a lesser good, would be a greater good, when its subtraction makes the remainder a lesser good.

(d) Comparison of predicates by adding them to or subtracting them from a known value.

Also, you must consider whether one thing is worthy of choice for its own sake and the other for the impression which it makes on others, for example, health as compared with beauty. That which is worthy of choice for the impression it makes may be defined as that which one would not be eager to possess if no one knew about it. You must also consider whether one thing is worthy of choice for its own sake and also for the impression it makes, and the other for only one of these reasons. Also whichever is more valuable for its own sake, is also better and more worthy of choice. More valuable for its own sake would mean that which we choose by preference for its own sake, when nothing else is likely to result from it.

(e) Comparison of the ground of preference.

Further, you must distinguish the various meanings which ' worthy of choice ' may bear and what are the

τίνων χάριν, οἷον τοῦ συμφέροντος ἢ τοῦ καλοῦ  
 ἢ τοῦ ἡδέος· τὸ γὰρ πρὸς ἅπαντα ἢ πρὸς τὰ πλείω  
 30 χρήσιμον αἰρετώτερον ἂν ὑπάρχοι τοῦ μὴ ὁμοίως.  
 τῶν δ' αὐτῶν ἀμφοτέροις ὑπαρχόντων, ὁποτέρῳ  
 μᾶλλον ὑπάρχει σκεπτέον, πότερον ἡδίων ἢ κάλ-  
 λιον ἢ συμφερώτερον.· πάλιν τὸ τοῦ βελτίονος  
 ἔνεκεν αἰρετώτερον, οἷον τὸ ἀρετῆς ἔνεκεν ἢ  
 ἡδονῆς.· ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν φευκτῶν· φευκτό-  
 35 τερον γὰρ τὸ μᾶλλον ἐμποδιστικὸν τῶν αἰρετῶν,  
 οἷον νόσος αἴσχους· καὶ γὰρ ἡδονῆς καὶ τοῦ σπου-  
 δαῖον εἶναι κωλυτικώτερον ἢ νόσος.

Ἔτι ἐκ τοῦ ὁμοίως δεικνύναι φευκτὸν καὶ  
 αἰρετὸν τὸ προκείμενον· ἦττον γὰρ αἰρετὸν τὸ  
 τοιοῦτον, ὃ καὶ ἔλοιτ' ἂν τις ὁμοίως καὶ φύγοι,  
 τοῦ ἑτέρου ὄντος αἰρετοῦ μόνον.

119 a IV. Τὰς μὲν οὖν πρὸς ἄλληλα συγκρίσεις,  
 καθάπερ εἴρηται, ποιητέον. οἱ αὐτοὶ δὲ τόποι  
 χρήσιμοι καὶ πρὸς τὸ δεικνύναι ὅτι οὖν αἰρετὸν  
 ἢ φευκτὸν· ἀφαιρεῖν γὰρ μόνον δεῖ τὴν πρὸς ἕτερον  
 ὑπεροχήν. εἰ γὰρ τὸ τιμιώτερον αἰρετώτερον, καὶ  
 5 τὸ τίμιον αἰρετόν, καὶ εἰ τὸ χρησιμώτερον αἰρε-  
 τώτερον, καὶ τὸ χρήσιμον αἰρετόν. ὁμοίως δὲ  
 καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων, ὅσα τοιαύτην ἔχει τὴν σύγ-  
 κρισιν. ἐπ' ἐνίων γὰρ εὐθέως κατὰ τὴν πρὸς  
 404

### TOPICA, III. III-IV

ends in view, such as expediency or honour or pleasure ; for that which is useful for all these ends, or for most of them, would be more worthy of choice than which is not so useful. If the same qualities belong to both of two things, you should examine to which they belong in a greater degree, that is, which is more pleasant or honourable or expedient. Again, that which serves the better purpose is more worthy of choice, for example, that which aims at virtue than that which aims at pleasure. So too with the things which are to be avoided. That is more to be avoided which is more likely to stand in the way of that which is worthy of choice ; for example, disease is more to be avoided than ugliness, for disease is a greater preventive both of pleasure and of goodness.

Further, you can argue by showing that the subject under discussion is equally an object of avoidance and of choice ; for the kind of thing which one would equally choose and avoid is less worthy of choice than an alternative which is worthy of choice only.

IV. Comparisons, then, of things with one another should be made in the manner described. The same commonplaces are useful also for showing that something is simply worthy of choice or avoidance ; for we need only subtract the excess of one thing over the other. For if that which is more valuable is more worthy of choice, then also that which is valuable is worthy of choice, and, if that which is more useful is more worthy of choice, then also that which is useful is worthy of choice ; and so too in the other cases where such comparison is possible. For sometimes, while we are actually comparing two things,

*Adaptation  
of the above  
rules to  
simple pre-  
dication of  
value.*

ἕτερον σύγκρισιν καὶ ὅτι αἰρετὸν ἐκάτερον ἢ τὸ  
 ἕτερον λέγομεν, οἷον ὅταν τὸ μὲν φύσει ἀγαθὸν  
 10 τὸ δὲ μὴ φύσει λέγωμεν· τὸ γὰρ φύσει ἀγαθὸν  
 δῆλον ὅτι αἰρετόν ἐστιν.

V. Ληπτέον δ' ὅτι μάλιστα καθόλου τοὺς  
 τόπους περὶ τοῦ μᾶλλον καὶ τοῦ μείζονος· ληφ-  
 θέντες γὰρ οὕτως πρὸς πλείω χρήσιμοι ἂν εἴησαν.  
 15 ἔστι δ' αὐτῶν τῶν εἰρημένων ἐνίου καθόλου  
 μᾶλλον ποιεῖν μικρὸν παραλλάσσοντα τῇ προσ-  
 ηγορίᾳ, οἷον τὸ φύσει τοιοῦτο τοῦ μὴ φύσει  
 τοιούτου μᾶλλον τοιοῦτο. καὶ εἰ τὸ μὲν ποιεῖ τὸ  
 δὲ μὴ ποιεῖ τὸ ἔχον τοιόνδε ἢ ὧ ἂν ὑπάρχη, μᾶλλον  
 τοιοῦτο ὃ ποτε ποιεῖ ἢ ὃ μὴ ποιεῖ. εἰ δ' ἄμφω  
 ποιεῖ, τὸ μᾶλλον ποιῶν τοιοῦτο.

20 "Ἐτι εἰ τοῦ αὐτοῦ τινὸς τὸ μὲν μᾶλλον τὸ δὲ  
 ἥττον τοιοῦτο, καὶ εἰ τὸ μὲν τοιούτου μᾶλλον  
 τοιοῦτο, τὸ δὲ μὴ τοιούτου <μᾶλλον> τοιοῦτο,<sup>1</sup>  
 δῆλον ὅτι τὸ πρῶτον μᾶλλον τοιοῦτο. ἔτι ἐκ τῆς  
 προσθέσεως, εἰ τῷ αὐτῷ προστιθέμενον τὸ ὅλον  
 μᾶλλον ποιεῖ τοιοῦτο, ἢ εἰ τῷ ἥττον τοιούτῳ  
 προστιθέμενον τὸ ὅλον μᾶλλον ποιεῖ τοιοῦτο.

25 ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐκ τῆς ἀφαιρέσεως· οὐ γὰρ ἀφαι-

<sup>1</sup> Reading τοιούτου <μᾶλλον> τοιοῦτο. Pacius renders, *si alterum sit tali re magis tale, alterum non sit tali re tale, manifestum est*, etc.



### TOPICA, III. iv-v

we immediately assert that each or one of them is worthy of choice, for example, when we say that one thing is naturally good and another not naturally good ; for what is naturally good is obviously worthy of choice.

V. The commonplaces which deal with the more and the greater degree must be taken as generally as possible ; for when they are so taken they would be useful in a larger number of cases. Of the actual instances given above some can be made of more general application by a slight change in the way in which they are worded. We can say, for example, that that which naturally has a certain quality has that quality in a greater degree than that which does not possess it naturally. Also, if one thing does, and another thing does not, create a certain quality in that which possesses it, or in which it is present, then whichever creates it has that quality in a greater degree than that which does not create it ; and, if both create it, then that which creates it in a greater degree, possesses it in a greater degree.

*Rules for the comparative predication of accidents in general.*

Further, if one thing is of a certain quality in a greater degree and the other in a less degree than the same thing, and also, if one thing possesses a certain quality in a greater degree than some other thing which possesses it, and the other does not, it is obvious that the former in each case possesses the quality in a greater degree. Further, you must see, as a result of addition, whether something added to the same thing makes the whole of a certain quality in a greater degree, or whether, being added to something which possesses the quality in a less degree, it gives the whole that quality in a greater degree. And, similarly, if subtraction is used ; for

119 a

ρεθέντος τὸ λειπόμενον ἦττον τοιοῦτο, αὐτὸ μᾶλλον τοιοῦτο. καὶ τὰ τοῖς ἐναντίοις ἀμιγέστερα μᾶλλον τοιαῦτα, οἷον λευκότερον τὸ τῷ μέλανι ἀμιγέστερον. ἔτι παρὰ τὰ εἰρημένα πρότερον, τὸ μᾶλλον ἐπιδε-  
 30 χόμενον τὸν οἰκείον τοῦ προκειμένου λόγον, οἷον εἰ τοῦ λευκοῦ ἐστὶ λόγος χρῶμα διακριτικὸν ὅψεως, λευκότερον ὃ ἐστὶ μᾶλλον χρῶμα διακρι-  
 τικὸν ὅψεως.

VI. Ἄν δ' ἐπὶ μέρους καὶ μὴ καθόλου τὸ πρό-  
 βλημα τεθῇ, πρῶτον μὲν οἱ εἰρημένοι καθόλου  
 κατασκευαστικοὶ ἢ ἀνασκευαστικοὶ τόποι πάντες  
 85 χρήσιμοι. καθόλου γὰρ ἀναιροῦντες ἢ κατασκευά-  
 ζοντες καὶ ἐπὶ μέρους δείκνυμέν. εἰ γὰρ παντὶ  
 ὑπάρχει, καὶ τινί, καὶ εἰ μηδενί, οὐδὲ τινί. μάλιστα  
 δ' ἐπίκαιροι καὶ κοινοὶ τῶν τόπων οἳ τ' ἐκ τῶν  
 ἀντικειμένων καὶ τῶν συστοίχων καὶ τῶν πτώσεων.  
 ὁμοίως γὰρ ἔνδοξον τὸ ἀξιῶσαι, εἰ πᾶσα ἡδονὴ  
 ἀγαθόν, καὶ λύπην πᾶσαν εἶναι κακόν, τῷ εἴ τις  
 119 b ἡδονὴ ἀγαθόν, καὶ λύπην εἶναί τινα κακόν. ἔτι  
 εἴ τις αἰσθησις μὴ ἐστὶ δύναμις, καὶ ἀναισθησία  
 τις οὐκ ἔστιν ἀδυναμία. καὶ εἴ τι ὑποληπτὸν  
 ἐπιστητόν, καὶ ὑπόληψίς τις ἐπιστήμη. πάλιν εἴ  
 5 τι τῶν ἀδίκων ἀγαθόν, καὶ τῶν δικαίων τι κακόν.  
 καὶ εἴ τι τῶν δικαίως κακόν, καὶ τῶν ἀδίκως τι

### TOPICA, III. v-vi

that the subtraction of which makes the remainder less of a certain quality, itself possesses more of that quality. Also things possess qualities in a greater degree which have less admixture of the contraries of those qualities; for example, a thing is whiter which has less admixture of black. Further, besides what has already been said, a thing possesses a quality in a greater degree when it admits of the particular definition of the subject in question to a greater degree; for example, if the definition of 'white' is 'a colour which penetrates the vision,' that is whiter which is in a greater degree a colour which penetrates the vision.

VI. If the problem is put in a particular and not in a universal way, in the first place the general commonplaces mentioned above as applicable in constructive and destructive argument are all of them useful. For, when we destroy or construct something universally, we also display it in particular; for if something belongs to all, it also belongs to a particular one, and if it belongs to none, neither does it belong to a particular one. Those commonplaces are especially convenient and widely applicable which are based on opposites and co-ordinates and inflexions; for the claim that if all pleasure is good, then all pain is evil, meets with the same general acceptance as the claim that if some pleasure is good, then some pain is evil. Further, if some kind of perception is not a capacity, then some absence of perception is not an incapacity. Also, if something conceivable is knowable, then some conception is knowledge. Again, if something which is unjust is good, then something which is just is bad; and if something which can be done justly is bad, something

*Particular predica-  
tions:*

(a) Adoption of the previous rules.

(1) Rules based on opposites, co-ordinates and inflexions.

ἀγαθόν. καὶ εἴ τι τῶν ἡδέων φευκτόν, ἡδονή  
 τις φευκτόν. κατὰ ταῦτα δὲ καὶ εἴ τι τῶν ἡδέων  
 ὠφέλιμον, ἡδονή τις ὠφέλιμον. καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν  
 φθαρτικῶν δὲ καὶ τῶν γενέσεων καὶ φθορῶν  
 ὡσαύτως. εἰ γάρ τι φθαρτικὸν ἡδονῆς ἢ ἐπιστήμης  
 10 ὃν ἀγαθόν ἐστίν, εἴη ἂν τις ἡδονὴ ἢ ἐπιστήμη τῶν  
 κακῶν. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ εἰ φθορά τις ἐπιστήμης  
 τῶν ἀγαθῶν ἢ ἡ γένεσις τῶν κακῶν, ἔσται τις  
 ἐπιστήμη τῶν κακῶν, οἷον εἰ τὸ ἐπιλανθάνεσθαι  
 ἃ τις αἰσχυρὰ ἔπραξε τῶν ἀγαθῶν ἢ τὸ ἀναμι-  
 μνήσκεσθαι τῶν κακῶν, εἴη ἂν τὸ ἐπίστασθαι ἃ  
 15 τις αἰσχυρὰ ἔπραξε τῶν κακῶν. ὡσαύτως δὲ  
 καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων· ἐν ἅπασιν γὰρ ὁμοίως τὸ  
 ἔνδοξον.

Ἔτι ἐκ τοῦ μᾶλλον καὶ ἥττον καὶ ὁμοίως. εἰ  
 γὰρ μᾶλλον μὲν τῶν ἐξ ἄλλου γένους τι τοιοῦτο  
 ἐκείνων δὲ μηδέν ἐστίν, οὐδ' ἂν τὸ εἰρημένον εἴη  
 20 τοιοῦτον, οἷον εἰ μᾶλλον μὲν ἐπιστήμη τις ἀγαθόν  
 ἢ ἡδονή, μηδεμία δ' ἐπιστήμη ἀγαθόν, οὐδ' ἂν  
 ἡδονὴ εἴη. καὶ ἐκ τοῦ ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἥττον  
 ὡσαύτως· ἔσται γὰρ καὶ ἀναίρειν καὶ κατασκευά-  
 ζειν, πλὴν ἐκ μὲν τοῦ ὁμοίως ἀμφοτέρω, ἐκ δὲ  
 τοῦ ἥττον κατασκευάζειν μόνον, ἀνασκευάζειν δὲ



which can be done unjustly is good. Also, if some pleasant thing is to be avoided, pleasure is sometimes to be avoided. On the same principle, too, if a pleasant thing is sometimes beneficial, pleasure is sometimes beneficial. Similarly with regard to destructive agencies and the processes of generation and destruction. For, if something which is destructive of pleasure or knowledge is good, pleasure or knowledge would sometimes be an evil thing. Similarly, too, if the destruction of knowledge is sometimes a good thing or the production of it an evil thing, knowledge will be sometimes an evil thing; for example, if the forgetting of someone's disgraceful deeds is a good thing or the remembrance of them a bad thing, the knowledge of the disgraceful things which he has done would be an evil thing. Similarly, too, in the other cases; for in all of them the generally accepted opinion is formed in the same manner.

Further, arguments can be derived from the greater and the less and the like degree. If something in another genus has some quality in a greater degree than the object under discussion and none of the members of that genus possesses that quality, then neither could the object under discussion possess it; for example, if some kind of knowledge were good in a greater degree than pleasure, while no kind of knowledge is good, then neither would pleasure be good. We can argue in a similar way from the like and the less degrees; for it will be possible to argue thus both destructively and constructively, except that both processes can be based on the like degree, but the less degree can be used for constructive purposes only and not for destructive

(2) Rules based on the greater, the less and the like degree.

119 b

οὐ. εἰ γὰρ ὁμοίως δύνάμεις τις ἀγαθὸν καὶ ἐπι-  
 25 στήμη, ἔστι δέ τις δύναμις ἀγαθόν, καὶ ἐπιστήμη  
 ἔστιν. εἰ δὲ μηδεμία δύναμις, οὐδ' ἐπιστήμη. εἰ  
 δ' ἦττον δύνάμεις τις ἀγαθὸν ἢ ἐπιστήμη, ἔστι δέ  
 τις δύναμις ἀγαθόν, καὶ ἐπιστήμη. εἰ δὲ μηδεμία  
 δύναμις ἀγαθόν, οὐκ ἀνάγκη καὶ ἐπιστήμην μη-  
 δεμίαν εἶναι ἀγαθόν. δῆλον οὖν ὅτι κατασκευάζειν  
 30 μόνον ἐκ τοῦ ἦττον ἔστιν.

Οὐ μόνον δ' ἐξ ἄλλου γένους ἔστιν ἀνασκευάζειν,  
 ἀλλὰ καὶ ἐκ τοῦ αὐτοῦ λαμβάνοντι τὸ μάλιστα  
 τοιοῦτον, οἷον εἰ κείται ἐπιστήμη τις ἀγαθόν,  
 δειχθεῖν δ' ὅτι φρόνησις οὐκ ἀγαθόν, οὐδ' ἄλλη  
 35 οὐδεμία ἔσται, ἐπεὶ οὐδ' ἡ μάλιστα δοκοῦσα. ἔτι  
 ἐξ ὑποθέσεως, ὁμοίως ἀξιώσαντα, εἰ ἐνί, καὶ  
 πᾶσιν ὑπάρχειν ἢ μὴ ὑπάρχειν, οἷον εἰ ἡ τοῦ  
 ἀνθρώπου ψυχὴ ἀθάνατος, καὶ τὰς ἄλλας, εἰ δ'  
 αὕτη μὴ, μηδὲ τὰς ἄλλας. εἰ μὲν οὖν ὑπάρχειν  
 τινὶ κείται, δεικτέον ὅτι οὐχ ὑπάρχει τινί· ἀκο-  
 λουθήσει γὰρ διὰ τὴν ὑπόθεσιν τὸ μηδενὶ ὑπάρχειν.  
 120 a εἰ δέ τινι μὴ ὑπάρχον κείται, δεικτέον ὅτι ὑπάρχει  
 τινί· καὶ γὰρ οὕτως ἀκολουθήσει τὸ πᾶσιν ὑπάρχειν.  
 δῆλον δ' ἐστὶν ὅτι ὁ ὑποτιθέμενος ποιεῖ τὸ πρό-

purposes. For if a certain capacity is good in a like degree to knowledge, and a certain capacity is good, then knowledge is also good ; but if no capacity is good, knowledge is not good either. On the other hand, if a certain capacity is good in a less degree than knowledge, and a certain capacity is good, then so also is knowledge ; but if no capacity is good, it does not necessarily follow that no knowledge is good either. It is clear, therefore, that arguments from the less degree can only be used for constructive purposes.

It is possible to destroy an opinion not only by means of another genus but also by means of the same genus by taking an extreme case ; for example, if it were to be laid down that a certain kind of knowledge is good, and it were to be shown that prudence is not good, then no other kind of knowledge will be good, since not even that kind of knowledge is good which is generally reputed to be so. Further, you can argue by means of a hypothesis, claiming that if some attribute belongs or does not belong to one member of the genus, it also belongs or does not belong in a like degree to all ; for example, that, if the soul of man is immortal, all other souls are also immortal, but if it is not, then neither are the other souls. If, therefore, it is laid down that an attribute belongs to some member of the genus, you must show that there is some member to which it does not belong ; for it will follow in accordance with the hypothesis that it belongs to no member of the genus. But, if it is laid down that it does not belong to any member, it must be shown that there is a member to which it belongs ; for thus it will follow that it belongs to all the members of the genus. Now it is clear that he who makes the

(b) Destructive argument can be drawn not only from another genus but also from the same genus.

βλημα καθόλου ἐπὶ μέρους τεθέν· τὸν γὰρ ἐπὶ  
 μέρους ὁμολογοῦντα καθόλου ἀξιοῖ ὁμολογεῖν,  
 5 ἐπειδή, εἰ ἐνί, καὶ πᾶσιν ὁμοίως ἀξιοῖ ὑπάρχειν.

Ἀδιορίστου μὲν οὖν ὄντος τοῦ προβλήματος  
 μοναχῶς ἀνασκευάζειν ἐνδέχεται, οἷον εἰ ἔφησεν  
 ἡδονὴν ἀγαθὸν εἶναι ἢ μὴ ἀγαθόν, καὶ μηδὲν ἄλλο  
 προσδιώρισεν. εἰ μὲν γὰρ τινα ἔφησεν ἡδονὴν  
 ἀγαθὸν εἶναι, δεικτέον καθόλου ὅτι οὐδεμία, εἰ  
 10 μέλλει ἀναιρεῖσθαι τὸ προκείμενον. ὁμοίως δὲ  
 καὶ εἰ τινα ἔφησεν ἡδονὴν μὴ εἶναι ἀγαθόν, δει-  
 κτέον καθόλου ὅτι πᾶσα ἄλλως δ' οὐκ ἐνδέχεται  
 ἀναιρεῖν. ἐὰν γὰρ δείξωμεν ὅτι ἐστὶ τις ἡδονὴ  
 οὐκ ἀγαθὸν ἢ ἀγαθόν, οὕτω ἀναιρεῖται τὸ προκεί-  
 μενον. δῆλον οὖν ὅτι ἀναιρεῖν μὲν μοναχῶς ἐνδέ-  
 15 χεται, κατασκευάζειν δὲ διχῶς· ἂν τε γὰρ καθόλου  
 δείξωμεν ὅτι πᾶσα ἡδονὴ ἀγαθόν, ἂν τε ὅτι ἐστὶ  
 τις ἡδονὴ ἀγαθόν, δεδειγμένον ἔσται τὸ προκεί-  
 μενον. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ δέη διαλεχθῆναι ὅτι ἐστὶ  
 τις ἡδονὴ οὐκ ἀγαθόν, ἐὰν δείξωμεν ὅτι οὐδεμία  
 ἀγαθὸν ἢ ὅτι τις οὐκ ἀγαθόν, διειλεγμένοι ἐσόμεθα  
 20 ἀμφοτέρως, καὶ καθόλου καὶ ἐπὶ μέρους, ὅτι ἐστὶ  
 τις ἡδονὴ οὐκ ἀγαθόν. διωρισμένης δὲ τῆς θέσεως  
 οὔσης, διχῶς ἀναιρεῖν ἔσται, οἷον εἰ τεθείη τινὲς  
 μὲν ὑπάρχειν ἡδονῇ ἀγαθῷ εἶναι, τινὲς δ' οὐχ  
 ὑπάρχειν· εἴτε γὰρ πᾶσα δειχθείη ἡδονὴ ἀγαθόν



hypothesis makes the problem universal, though it is posited in a particular form ; for he demands that the maker of a particular admission should make a universal admission, since he demands that, if an attribute belongs in a particular case, it belongs in like manner to all.

When the problem is indefinite, there is only one way of demolishing a statement, for example, if someone has said that pleasure is good or is not good, and has added nothing by way of definition. If he meant that a certain pleasure is good, it must be shown universally that no pleasure is good, if the proposition is to be destroyed. Similarly, if he meant that some particular pleasure is not good, it must be shown universally that every pleasure is good ; it is impossible to destroy the proposition in any other way. For if we show that a particular pleasure is not good or is good, the proposition is not yet destroyed. It is clear, then, that there is only one method of destruction but two of construction ; for the proposition will have been demonstrated both if we show universally that all pleasure is good, and also if we show that some particular pleasure is good. Similarly, when one has to argue that a particular pleasure is not good, if we show that no pleasure is good or that a particular pleasure is not good, we shall have argued in two ways, universally and particularly, that a particular pleasure is not good. On the other hand, when the thesis is definite, it will be possible to destroy it by two methods, for example, if it be laid down that it is the attribute of some particular pleasure to be good, but not of another ; for whether it be shown that all pleasure is good or that none is good, the

(c) The effect of the definiteness and indefiniteness of the problem on proof and disproof.

120 a

εἴτε μηδεμία, ἀνηρημένον ἔσται τὸ προκείμενον.  
 25 εἰ δὲ μίαν ἡδονὴν μόνην ἀγαθὸν ἔθηκεν εἶναι,  
 τριχῶς ἐνδέχεται ἀναιρεῖν· δείξαντες γὰρ ὅτι πᾶσα  
 ἢ ὅτι οὐδεμία ἢ ὅτι πλείους μιᾶς ἀγαθόν, ἀνηρη-  
 κότες ἐσόμεθα τὸ προκείμενον. ἐπὶ πλείον δὲ τῆς  
 θέσεως διορισθείσης, οἷον ὅτι ἡ φρόνησις μόνη  
 τῶν ἀρετῶν ἐπιστήμη, τετραχῶς ἔστιν ἀναιρεῖν·  
 δειχθέντος γὰρ ὅτι πᾶσα ἀρετὴ ἐπιστήμη ἢ ὅτι  
 30 οὐδεμία ἢ ὅτι καὶ ἄλλη τις, οἷον ἡ δικαιοσύνη,  
 ἢ ὅτι αὐτὴ ἡ φρόνησις οὐκ ἐπιστήμη, ἀνηρημένον  
 ἔσται τὸ προκείμενον.

Χρήσιμον δὲ καὶ τὸ ἐπιβλέπειν ἐπὶ τὰ καθ'  
 ἕκαστα, ἐν οἷς ὑπάρχειν τι ἢ μὴ εἶρηται, καθάπερ  
 ἐν τοῖς καθόλου προβλήμασιν. ἔτι δ' ἐν τοῖς  
 35 γένεσιν ἐπιβλεπτόν, διαιροῦντα κατ' εἴδη μέχρι  
 τῶν ἀτόμων, καθὰ προεῖρηται· ἂν τε γὰρ παντὶ  
 φαίνεται ὑπάρχον ἂν τε μηδενί, πολλὰ προενέγ-  
 καντι ἀξιωτέον καθόλου ὁμολογεῖν ἢ φέρειν ἐν-  
 στασιν ἐπὶ τίνος οὐχ οὕτως. ἔτι ἐφ' ὧν ἔστιν ἡ  
 εἶδει ἢ ἀριθμῷ διορίσαι τὸ συμβεβηκός, σκεπτόν  
 120 b εἰ μηδὲν τούτων ὑπάρχει, οἷον ὅτι ὁ χρόνος οὐ  
 κινεῖται οὐδ' ἐστὶ κίνησις, καταριθμησάμενον πόσα  
 εἴδη κινήσεως· εἰ γὰρ μηδὲν τούτων ὑπάρχει τῷ  
 χρόνῳ, δῆλον ὅτι οὐ κινεῖται οὐδ' ἐστὶ κίνησις.

proposition will have been destroyed. If, however, our opponent has stated that one pleasure alone is good, it is possible to destroy the proposition in three ways; for if we show that all pleasure, or no pleasure, or more than one pleasure, is good, we shall have destroyed the proposition. If the thesis is still more strictly defined—for example, that prudence alone of the virtues is knowledge—four ways of destroying it are possible; for if it has been shown that all virtue is knowledge, or that no virtue is knowledge, or that some other virtue (for example, justice) is knowledge, or that prudence itself is not knowledge, the proposition will have been destroyed.

It is useful to look at particular instances where it has been stated that some attribute belongs or does not belong, as in the case of universal problems. Further, you must look within the genera, dividing them according to their species until you reach the indivisible, as has already been described.<sup>a</sup> For whether the attribute is shown to be present in all or in none, you should, after bringing forward numerous cases, claim that your contention should be admitted universally or else an objection should be made stating in what instance it does not hold good. Further, where it is possible to define the accident either by species or by number, you must see whether none of them belongs, showing, for example, that time does not move and that it is not a form of motion, by enumerating all the different kinds of motion; for if none of these belongs to time, it is clear that it does not move and is not a form of motion. Similarly, too, you can

(d) Various further rules.

<sup>a</sup> 109 b 15.

120 b

ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ὅτι ἡ ψυχὴ οὐκ ἀριθμός, διελόμενον  
 ὅτι πᾶς ἀριθμὸς ἢ περιττὸς ἢ ἄρτιος· εἰ γὰρ ἡ  
 5 ψυχὴ μήτε περιττὸν μήτε ἄρτιον, δῆλον ὅτι οὐκ  
 ἀριθμός.

Πρὸς μὲν οὖν τὸ συμβεβηκὸς διὰ τῶν τοιούτων  
 καὶ οὕτως ἐπιχειρητέον.



### TOPICA, III. VI

show that the soul is not a number by distinguishing all numbers as either odd or even ; for if the soul is neither odd nor even, clearly it is not a number.

As regards accident, then, such are the means and such the methods which you should employ.

Δ

120 b 12 I. Μετὰ δὲ ταῦτα περὶ τῶν πρὸς τὸ γένος καὶ  
τὸ ἴδιον ἐπισκεπτέον. ἔστι δὲ ταῦτα στοιχεῖα τῶν  
πρὸς τοὺς ὄρους· περὶ αὐτῶν δὲ τούτων ὀλιγάκις  
15 αἱ σκέψεις γίνονται τοῖς διαλεγομένοις. ἂν δὴ  
τεθῇ γένος τινὸς τῶν ὄντων, πρῶτον μὲν ἐπι-  
βλέπειν ἐπὶ πάντα τὰ συγγενῇ τῷ λεχθέντι, εἴ  
τινος μὴ κατηγορεῖται, καθάπερ ἐπὶ τοῦ συμ-  
βεβηκότος, οἷον εἰ τῆς ἡδονῆς τὰγαθὸν γένος  
κεῖται, εἴ τις ἡδονὴ μὴ ἀγαθόν· εἰ γὰρ τοῦτο,  
δῆλον ὅτι οὐ γένος τὰγαθὸν τῆς ἡδονῆς· τὸ γὰρ  
20 γένος κατὰ πάντων τῶν ὑπὸ τὸ αὐτὸ εἶδος κατ-  
ηγορεῖται. εἴτα εἰ μὴ ἐν τῷ τί ἐστι κατηγορεῖται,  
ἀλλ' ὡς συμβεβηκός, καθάπερ τὸ λευκὸν τῆς  
χιόνος, ἢ ψυχῆς τὸ κινούμενον ὑφ' αὐτοῦ. οὔτε  
γὰρ ἡ χιὼν ὅπερ λευκόν, διόπερ οὐ γένος τὸ λευκόν  
τῆς χιόνος, οὔθ' ἡ ψυχὴ ὅπερ κινούμενον· συμ-  
25 βέβηκε δ' αὐτῇ κινεῖσθαι, καθάπερ καὶ τῷ ζῳῳ  
πολλάκις βαδίζειν τε καὶ βαδίζοντι εἶναι. ἔτι τὸ  
κινούμενον οὐ τί ἐστιν, ἀλλὰ τι ποιοῦν ἢ πάσχον  
σημαίνειν ἔοικεν. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ τὸ λευκόν· οὐ  
420

## BOOK IV

I. THE next questions which we must examine are those which relate to genus and property. These are elements in questions relating to definitions, but in themselves are seldom the subject of inquiries by disputants. If, then, a genus is asserted of something which exists, you must first examine all the things which are related to the subject in question and see whether it fails to be predicated of one of them, as was done in the case of the accident. For example, when it is stated that 'good' is a genus of pleasure, you must see whether some particular pleasure is not good; for, if so, clearly 'good' is not the genus of pleasure, for the genus is predicated of everything which falls under the same species. Next, you must see whether it is predicated, not in the category of essence, but as an accident, as 'white' is predicated of 'snow' or 'self-moved' of the soul. For neither is 'snow' 'that which is white,'<sup>a</sup> and therefore 'white' is not the genus of snow, nor is the 'soul' 'that which moves'; for it is an accident that it moves, just as it is often an accident of an animal that it walks or is walking. Further, 'moving' does not seem to signify the essence of a thing but that it does something or has something done to it. Similarly also 'white'; for it does not signify the

(B) OF  
GENUS  
(BOOK IV).  
*Various  
rules :*

(a) The  
genus must  
include all  
members of  
the same  
species as  
that of  
which it is  
predicated.

<sup>a</sup> *i.e.* a species of white.

120 b γὰρ τί ἐστὶν ἡ χιών, ἀλλὰ ποιὸν τι δηλοῖ. ὥστ' οὐδέτερον αὐτῶν ἐν τῷ τί ἐστι κατηγορεῖται.

- 30 Μάλιστα δ' ἐπὶ τὸν τοῦ συμβεβηκότος ὀρισμὸν ἐπιβλέπειν, εἰ ἐφαρμόττει ἐπὶ τὸ ῥηθὲν γένος, οἶον καὶ τὰ νῦν εἰρημμένα. ἐνδέχεται γὰρ κινεῖν τι αὐτὸ ἑαυτὸ καὶ μή, ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ λευκὸν εἶναι καὶ μή. ὥστ' οὐδέτερον αὐτῶν γένος ἀλλὰ συμβεβηκός, ἐπειδὴ συμβεβηκὸς ἐλέγομεν ὃ ἐνδέχεται  
35 ὑπάρχειν τινὶ καὶ μή.

Ἔτι εἰ μὴ ἐν τῇ αὐτῇ διαιρέσει τὸ γένος καὶ τὸ εἶδος, ἀλλὰ τὸ μὲν οὐσία τὸ δὲ ποιόν, ἢ τὸ μὲν πρὸς τι τὸ δὲ ποιόν, οἶον ἢ μὲν χιών καὶ ὁ κύκνος οὐσία, τὸ δὲ λευκὸν οὐκ οὐσία ἀλλὰ ποιόν, ὥστ' οὐ γένος τὸ λευκὸν τῆς χιόνος οὐδὲ τοῦ κύκνου.

- 121 a πάλιν ἢ μὲν ἐπιστήμη τῶν πρὸς τι, τὸ δ' ἀγαθὸν καὶ τὸ καλὸν ποιόν, ὥστ' οὐ γένος τὸ ἀγαθὸν ἢ τὸ καλὸν τῆς ἐπιστήμης· τὰ γὰρ τῶν πρὸς τι γένη καὶ αὐτὰ τῶν πρὸς τι δεῖ εἶναι, καθάπερ ἐπὶ τοῦ  
5 διπλασίου· καὶ γὰρ τὸ πολλαπλάσιον, ὃν γένος τοῦ διπλασίου, καὶ αὐτὸ τῶν πρὸς τί ἐστιν. καθόλου δ' εἰπεῖν, ὑπὸ τὴν αὐτὴν διαίρεσιν δεῖ τὸ γένος τῷ εἶδει εἶναι· εἰ γὰρ τὸ εἶδος οὐσία, καὶ τὸ γένος, καὶ εἰ ποιὸν τὸ εἶδος, καὶ τὸ γένος ποιόν τι, οἶον εἰ τὸ λευκὸν ποιόν τι, καὶ τὸ χρῶμα. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων.

- 10 Πάλιν εἰ ἀνάγκη ἢ ἐνδέχεται τοῦ τεθέντος ἐν τῷ γένει μετέχειν τὸ γένος. ὅρος δὲ τοῦ μετέχειν



## TOPICA, IV. 1

essence of snow, but its possession of a certain quality. So neither 'white' nor 'moving' is predicated in the category of essence.

You should look particularly at the definition of the accident and see whether it fits the asserted genus, as, for example, in the instances just mentioned. For it is possible for a thing to be and not to be self-moved, and similarly for it to be and not to be white; so that neither attribute is a genus but both are accidents, since we said<sup>a</sup> that an accident is something which can and also can not belong to something.

(b) Accident is distinguished from genus by being an attribute which can belong or not belong.

Further, you must see whether the genus and the species are not in the same division, but the one is a substance and the other a quality, or the one is a relative and the other a quality, as, for example, 'snow' and 'swan' are substance, but 'white' is not a substance but a quality; so that 'white' is not the genus of 'snow' or of 'swan.' Again, 'knowledge' is a relative, whereas 'good' and 'noble' are qualities, so that 'good' and 'noble' are not genera of knowledge. For the genera of relatives must themselves be relatives, as is true of 'double'; for 'multiple,' which is the genus of 'double,' is itself also a relative. To put the matter generally, the genus must fall under the same division as the species; for, if the species is a substance, so also is the genus, and if the species is a quality, the genus also is a quality; for example, if white is a quality, so also is colour. Similarly also with the other instances.

(c) The genus and the species must fall in the same category.

Again, you must see whether it is necessary or possible for the genus to partake of that which has been placed in the genus. (The definition of

(d) Species partake of genera, but not genera of species.

121 a

τὸ ἐπιδέχεσθαι τὸν τοῦ μετεχομένου λόγον. δῆλον οὖν ὅτι τὰ μὲν εἶδη μετέχει τῶν γενῶν, τὰ δὲ γένη τῶν εἰδῶν οὐ· τὸ μὲν γὰρ εἶδος ἐπιδέχεται τὸν τοῦ γένους λόγον, τὸ δὲ γένος τὸν τοῦ εἶδους οὐ.  
 15 σκεπτέον οὖν εἰ μετέχει ἢ ἐνδέχεται μετέχειν τοῦ εἶδους τὸ ἀποδοθὲν γένος, οἷον εἴ τις τοῦ ὄντος ἢ τοῦ ἐνὸς γένος τι ἀποδοίῃ· συμβήσεται γὰρ μετέχειν τὸ γένος τοῦ εἶδους· κατὰ πάντων γὰρ τῶν ὄντων τὸ ὄν καὶ τὸ ἐν κατηγορεῖται, ὥστε καὶ ὁ λόγος αὐτῶν.

20 Ἔτι εἰ κατὰ τινος τὸ ἀποδοθὲν εἶδος ἀληθεύεται, τὸ δὲ γένος μὴ, οἷον εἰ τὸ ὄν ἢ τὸ ἐπιστητὸν τοῦ δοξαστοῦ γένος τεθείη. κατὰ γὰρ τοῦ μὴ ὄντος τὸ δοξαστὸν κατηγορηθήσεται· πολλὰ γὰρ τῶν μὴ ὄντων δοξαστά· ὅτι δὲ τὸ ὄν ἢ τὸ ἐπιστητὸν οὐ κατηγορεῖται κατὰ τοῦ μὴ ὄντος, δῆλον. ὥστ'  
 25 οὐ γένος τὸ ὄν οὐδὲ τὸ ἐπιστητὸν τοῦ δοξαστοῦ· καθ' ὧν γὰρ τὸ εἶδος κατηγορεῖται, καὶ τὸ γένος δεῖ κατηγορεῖσθαι.

Πάλιν εἰ μηδενὸς τῶν εἰδῶν ἐνδέχεται μετέχειν τὸ τεθὲν ἐν τῷ γένει· ἀδύνατον γὰρ τοῦ γένους μετέχειν μηδενὸς τῶν εἰδῶν μετέχον, ἂν μὴ τι  
 30 τῶν κατὰ τὴν πρώτην διαίρεσιν εἰδῶν ἢ· ταῦτα δὲ τοῦ γένους μόνον μετέχει. ἂν οὖν ἡ κίνησις γένος τῆς ἡδονῆς τεθῇ, σκεπτέον εἰ μήτε φορὰ μήτ' ἀλλοίωσις ἢ ἡδονὴ μήτε τῶν λοιπῶν τῶν

## TOPICA, IV. 1

'partaking' is 'admitting the definition of that which is partaken.') It is obvious, therefore, that the species partake of the genera, whereas the genera do not partake of the species ; for the species admits the definition of the genus, whereas the genus does not admit the definition of the species. You must, therefore, look and see whether the genus assigned partakes, or can partake of the species ; for example, if one were to assign something as the genus of 'being' or of 'oneness,' for the result will be that the genus partakes of the species, for 'being' and 'oneness' are predicated of everything which exists, and therefore so is their definition also.

Further, you must look whether there is any case in which the species assigned is true but the genus is not true, for example, if 'being' or 'knowable' were given as the genus of 'conjectural.' For 'conjectural' will be predicated of that which does not exist ; for many things which do not exist are subjects of conjecture. But it is obvious that 'being' and 'knowable' are not predicated of that which does not exist. And so neither 'being' nor 'knowable' is the genus of 'conjectural' ; for of things of which the species is predicated, the genus also must be predicated.

(e) If the species is predicated, the genus also will be predicated.

Again, you must see whether that which is placed in the genus cannot possibly partake of any of its species ; for it is impossible for it to partake of the genus if it does not partake of any of its species, unless it is one of the species obtained at the first division, which do partake of the genus only. If, therefore, 'motion' is laid down as the genus of pleasure, you must examine whether pleasure is neither locomotion nor alteration nor any of the

(f) A predicate cannot partake of the genus if it partakes of none of its species.

121 a

ἀποδοθειςῶν κινήσεων μηδεμία· δῆλον γὰρ ὅτι οὐδενὸς ἂν τῶν εἰδῶν μετέχοι· ὥστ' οὐδὲ τοῦ γένους, ἐπειδὴ ἀναγκαῖόν ἐστι τὸ τοῦ γένους  
 35 μετέχον καὶ τῶν εἰδῶν τινὸς μετέχειν· ὥστ' οὐκ ἂν εἴη εἶδος ἢ ἡδονὴ κινήσεως, οὐδὲ τῶν ἀτόμων οὐδέν<sup>1</sup> τῶν ὑπὸ τὸ γένος<sup>2</sup> τὸ τῆς κινήσεως ὄντων, καὶ γὰρ τὰ ἅτομα μετέχει τοῦ γένους καὶ τοῦ εἶδους, οἷον ὁ τις ἄνθρωπος καὶ ἀνθρώπου μετέχει καὶ ζῶον.

121 b

Ἔτι εἰ ἐπὶ πλέον λέγεται τοῦ γένους τὸ ἐν τῷ γένει τεθέν, οἷον τὸ δοξαστὸν τοῦ ὄντος· καὶ γὰρ τὸ ὄν καὶ τὸ μὴ ὄν δοξαστόν, ὥστ' οὐκ ἂν εἴη τὸ δοξαστόν εἶδος τοῦ ὄντος· ἐπὶ πλέον γὰρ αἰεὶ τὸ γένος τοῦ εἶδους λέγεται. πάλιν εἰ ἐπ' ἴσων τὸ  
 5 εἶδος καὶ τὸ γένος λέγεται, οἷον εἰ τῶν πᾶσιν ἐπομένων τὸ μὲν εἶδος τὸ δὲ γένος τεθείη, καθάπερ τὸ ὄν καὶ τὸ ἔν· παντὶ γὰρ τὸ ὄν καὶ τὸ ἔν, ὥστ' οὐδέτερον οὐδετέρου γένος, ἐπειδὴ ἐπ' ἴσων λέγεται. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ εἰ τὸ πρῶτον καὶ ἡ ἀρχὴ ὑπ'<sup>3</sup> ἄλληλα τεθείη· ἢ τε γὰρ ἀρχὴ πρῶτον καὶ τὸ  
 10 πρῶτον ἀρχή, ὥστ' ἢ ἀμφοτέρα τὰ εἰρημένα ταυτόν ἐστιν ἢ οὐδέτερον οὐδετέρου γένος. στοιχείον δὲ πρὸς ἅπαντα τὰ τοιαῦτα τὸ ἐπὶ πλέον τὸ γένος ἢ τὸ εἶδος καὶ τὴν διαφορὰν λέγεσθαι· ἐπ' ἑλαττον γὰρ καὶ ἡ διαφορὰ τοῦ γένους λέγεται.

<sup>1</sup> Reading οὐδέν with Wallies for οὐδὲ.

<sup>2</sup> γένος W. S. Maguinness, εἶδος codd.

<sup>3</sup> Reading ὑπ' with Waitz for ἐπ'.

<sup>a</sup> εἶδος, 'species,' which the mss. read here, is quite contrary to the argument, which requires γένος, 'genus.'



## TOPICA, IV. 1

other generally assigned modes of motion ; for, then, obviously it would not partake of any of the species, and, therefore, cannot partake of the genus either, since that which partakes of the genus must necessarily partake of one of the species also. So pleasure cannot be a species of motion nor any of the individual things which fall under the genus <sup>a</sup> of motion. For the individuals also partake of the genus and of the species ; for example, the individual man partakes both of ' man ' and ' animal.'

Further, you must see whether that which is placed in the genus has a wider application than the genus as, for example, ' an object of conjecture ' is wider than ' being ' ; for both that which is and that which is not are objects of conjecture, so that ' object of conjecture ' could not be a species of ' being ' ; for the genus is always applied more widely than the species. Again, you must see whether the species and its genus are applied to an equal number of things ; for example, if, of the attributes which accompany everything, one were to be put down as a species and the other as a genus, for example, ' being ' and ' oneness ' ; for everything possesses ' being ' and ' oneness,' so that neither is the genus of the other, since they are applied to an equal number of things. Similarly, too, if the ' first ' and the ' beginning ' were to be placed one under the other ; for the ' beginning ' is ' first ' and the ' first ' is a ' beginning,' so that either the two terms are identical or neither is the genus of the other. In all such cases the basic principle is that the genus has a wider application than the species and its differentia ; for the differentia also has a narrower application than the genus.

(g) The genus has a wider application than the species.

121 b

15 Ὅραὺν δὲ καὶ εἴ τινας τῶν ἀδιαφόρων εἶδει μὴ  
 ἔστι τὸ εἰρημένον γένος ἢ μὴ δόξειεν ἄν, κατα-  
 σκευάζοντι δέ, εἰ ἔστι τινός. ταῦτόν γὰρ πάντων  
 τῶν ἀδιαφόρων εἶδει γένος. ἄν οὖν ἐνὸς δειχθῇ,  
 δῆλον ὅτι πάντων, καὶ ἐνὸς μὴ, δῆλον ὅτι οὐδενός,  
 οἷον εἴ τις ἀτόμους τιθέμενος γραμμὰς τὸ ἀδι-  
 20 αῖρετον γένος αὐτῶν φήσειεν εἶναι. τῶν γὰρ διαί-  
 ρεσιν ἔχουσῶν γραμμῶν οὐκ ἔστι τὸ εἰρημένον  
 γένος, ἀδιαφόρων οὐσῶν κατὰ τὸ εἶδος· ἀδιάφοροι  
 γὰρ ἀλλήλαις κατὰ τὸ εἶδος αἰ εὐθεῖαι γραμμαὶ  
 πᾶσαι.

II. Σκοπεῖν δὲ καὶ εἴ τι ἄλλο γένος ἐστὶ τοῦ  
 25 ἀποδοθέντος εἶδους, ὃ μῆτε περιέχει τὸ ἀποδοθὲν  
 γένος μὴθ' ὑπ' ἐκείνῳ ἐστίν, οἷον εἴ τις τῆς δικαιο-  
 σύνης τὴν ἐπιστήμην θείη γένος. ἔστι γὰρ καὶ  
 ἡ ἀρετὴ γένος, καὶ οὐδέτερον τῶν γενῶν τὸ λοιπὸν  
 περιέχει, ὥστ' οὐκ ἂν εἴη ἡ ἐπιστήμη γένος τῆς  
 δικαιοσύνης· δοκεῖ γάρ, ὅταν ἓν εἶδος ὑπὸ δύο  
 30 γένῃ ἧ, τὸ ἕτερον ὑπὸ τοῦ ἐτέρου περιέχεσθαι.  
 ἔχει δ' ἀπορίαν ἐπ' ἐνίων τὸ τοιοῦτο. δοκεῖ γὰρ  
 ἐνίοις ἡ φρόνησις ἀρετὴ τε καὶ ἐπιστήμη εἶναι,  
 καὶ οὐδέτερον τῶν γενῶν ὑπ' οὐδετέρου περι-  
 ἔχεσθαι· οὐ μὴν ὑπὸ πάντων γε συγχωρεῖται τὴν  
 φρόνησιν ἐπιστήμην εἶναι. εἰ δ' οὖν τις συγ-  
 35 χωροίη τὸ λεγόμενον ἀληθὲς εἶναι, ἀλλὰ τό γε  
 ὑπ' ἄλληλα ἢ ὑπὸ ταῦτόν αὐτῳ γίνεσθαι τὰ τοῦ  
 αὐτοῦ γένῃ τῶν ἀναγκαίων δόξειεν ἄν εἶναι,  
 καθάπερ καὶ ἐπὶ τῆς ἀρετῆς καὶ τῆς ἐπιστήμης

## TOPICA, IV. 1-11

You must also see whether the genus stated is inapplicable, or would be generally held to be inapplicable, to something which is not specifically different from the thing under discussion ; or, if you are arguing constructively, whether it *is* applicable. For the genus of all things which are not specifically different is the same. If, therefore, it is shown to be the genus of one, obviously it is the genus also of all, and if it is shown not to be the genus of one, obviously it is not the genus of any, for example, if anyone positing 'indivisible lines' were to assert that 'the indivisible' is their genus. For the genus stated is inapplicable to divisible lines, which in species do not differ from indivisible lines ; for all straight lines show no difference from one another in species.

II. You must also examine whether there is any other genus of the species assigned which neither includes the genus assigned nor falls under it, for example, if someone were to lay down that knowledge is the genus of justice. For virtue is also its genus and neither of the genera includes the other, so that knowledge could not be the genus of justice ; for it is generally held that, when one species falls under two genera, the one is included in the other. But such a principle sometimes involves a difficulty. For, in the view of some people, prudence is both virtue and knowledge and neither of its genera is included in the other ; it is not, however, universally agreed that prudence is knowledge. If, therefore, one were to agree that this statement is true, it would nevertheless be generally held as necessary that the genera of the same thing must at least be subaltern either the one to the other or both of them to the same thing. This happens in the case

(h) The genus of things not specifically different is the same.

(i) When one species falls under two genera, the one is embraced by the other.

121 b

συμβαίνει· ἄμφω γὰρ ὑπὸ τὸ αὐτὸ γένος ἐστίν·  
ἐκάτερον γὰρ αὐτῶν ἕξις καὶ διάθεσις ἐστιν.  
σκεπτέον οὖν εἰ μηδέτερον ὑπάρχει τῷ ἀποδοθέντι

122 a γένει. εἰ γὰρ μήθ' ὑπ' ἄλληλά ἐστι τὰ γένη μήθ'  
ὑπὸ ταὐτὸν ἄμφω, οὐκ ἂν εἴη τὸ ἀποδοθὲν γένος.

Σκοπεῖν δὲ δεῖ καὶ τὸ γένος τοῦ ἀποδοθέντος  
γένους, καὶ οὕτως αἰεὶ τὸ ἐπάνω γένος, εἰ πάντα  
5 κατηγορεῖται τοῦ εἵδους καὶ εἰ ἐν τῷ τί ἐστι  
κατηγορεῖται· πάντα γὰρ τὰ ἐπάνω γένη κατ-  
ηγορεῖσθαι δεῖ τοῦ εἵδους ἐν τῷ τί ἐστιν. εἰ οὖν  
που διαφωνεῖ, δῆλον ὅτι οὐ γένος τὸ ἀποδοθέν.  
πάλιν εἰ μετέχει τὸ γένος τοῦ εἵδους, ἢ αὐτὸ ἢ  
τῶν ἐπάνω τι γενῶν· οὐδενὸς γὰρ τῶν ὑποκάτω  
10 τὸ ἐπάνω μετέχει. ἀνασκευάζοντι μὲν οὖν καθ-  
άπερ εἴρηται χρηστέον· κατασκευάζοντι δέ, ὁμο-  
λογουμένου μὲν ὑπάρχειν τῷ εἶδει τοῦ ῥηθέντος  
γένους, ὅτι δ' ὥς γένος ὑπάρχει ἀμφισβητουμένου,  
ἀπόχρη τὸ δεῖξαί τι τῶν ἐπάνω γενῶν ἐν τῷ τί  
ἐστι τοῦ εἵδους κατηγορούμενον. ἐνὸς γὰρ ἐν τῷ  
τί ἐστι κατηγορουμένου, πάντα καὶ τὰ ἐπάνω  
15 τούτου καὶ τὰ ὑποκάτω, ἂν περ κατηγορῇται τοῦ  
εἵδους, ἐν τῷ τί ἐστι κατηγορηθήσεται· ὥστε  
καὶ τὸ ἀποδοθὲν γένος ἐν τῷ τί ἐστι κατηγορεῖται.  
ὅτι δ' ἐνὸς ἐν τῷ τί ἐστι κατηγορουμένου πάντα  
τὰ λοιπά, ἂν περ κατηγορῇται, ἐν τῷ τί ἐστι  
κατηγορηθήσεται, δι' ἐπαγωγῆς ληπτέον. εἰ δ'  
20 ἀπλῶς ὑπάρχειν ἀμφισβητεῖται τὸ ἀποδοθὲν γένος,



## TOPICA, IV. II

of virtue and knowledge, for both of them fall under the same genus, each of them being a state and a disposition. You must, therefore, examine whether neither of these things belongs to the genus assigned ; for, if the genera are subaltern neither the one to the other nor both of them to the same thing, then what was assigned could not be the real genus.

You must also examine the genus of the assigned genus and so in succession the genus next above, and see if they are all predicated of the species and predicated in the category of essence ; for all the higher genera must be predicated of the species in the category of essence. If, then, there is a discrepancy anywhere, it is clear that what was assigned is not the genus. Again, you must see whether the genus itself, or one of its higher genera, partakes of the species ; for the higher genus does not partake of any of the lower. For destructive purposes, then, you must employ the above method ; for constructive purposes, if the asserted genus is admitted to belong to the species but it is a matter of dispute whether it belongs as a genus, then it is enough to show that one of its higher genera is predicated of the species in the category of essence. For, if one genus is predicated in the category of essence, all of them, both higher and lower than this one, if they *are* predicated of the species, will be predicated in the category of essence ; so that the genus assigned is also predicated in the category of essence. The fact that, if one genus is predicated in the category of essence, all the rest, if they *are* predicated, will be predicated in the category of essence, must be obtained by induction. But, if it is disputed whether the assigned genus belongs at all, it is not enough

(j) All higher genera must be predicated of the species in the category of essence.

οὐκ ἀπόχρη τὸ δεῖξαι τῶν ἐπάνω τι γενῶν ἐν τῷ  
 τί ἐστι τοῦ εἶδους κατηγορούμενον. οἶον εἴ τις  
 τῆς βαδίσεως γένος ἀπέδωκε τὴν φοράν, οὐκ  
 ἀπόχρη τὸ δεῖξαι διότι κίνησίς ἐστιν ἡ βάδισις  
 πρὸς τὸ δεῖξαι ὅτι φορά ἐστιν, ἐπειδὴ καὶ ἄλλαι  
 25 κινήσεις εἰσὶν, ἀλλὰ προσδεικτέον ὅτι οὐδενὸς  
 μετέχει ἡ βάδισις τῶν κατὰ τὴν αὐτὴν διαίρεσιν  
 εἰ μὴ τῆς φορᾶς. ἀνάγκη γὰρ τὸ τοῦ γένους  
 μετέχον καὶ τῶν εἰδῶν τινὸς μετέχειν τῶν κατὰ  
 τὴν πρώτην διαίρεσιν. εἰ οὖν ἡ βάδισις μὴτ'  
 αὐξήσεως μήτε μειώσεως μήτε τῶν ἄλλων κινή-  
 σεων μετέχει, δῆλον ὅτι τῆς φορᾶς ἂν μετέχοι,  
 30 ὥστ' εἶη ἂν γένος ἡ φορά τῆς βαδίσεως.

Πάλιν ἐφ' ὧν τὸ εἶδος τὸ τεθὲν ὡς γένος κατ-  
 ηγορεῖται, σκοπεῖν εἰ καὶ τὸ ἀποδοθὲν γένος ἐν τῷ  
 τί ἐστιν αὐτῶν τούτων κατηγορεῖται ὥνπερ τὸ  
 εἶδος, ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ εἰ τὰ ἐπάνω τοῦ γένους  
 35 πάντα. εἰ γὰρ που διαφωνεῖ, δῆλον ὅτι οὐ γένος  
 τὸ ἀποδοθὲν· εἰ γὰρ ἦν γένος, ἅπαντ' ἂν καὶ τὰ  
 ἐπάνω τούτου καὶ αὐτὸ τοῦτο ἐν τῷ τί ἐστι κατ-  
 ηγορεῖτο, ὥνπερ καὶ τὸ εἶδος ἐν τῷ τί ἐστι  
 κατηγορεῖται. ἀνασκευάζοντι μὲν οὖν χρήσιμον, εἰ  
 μὴ κατηγορεῖται τὸ γένος ἐν τῷ τί ἐστιν ὥνπερ  
 καὶ τὸ εἶδος κατηγορεῖται· κατασκευάζοντι δ', εἰ  
 122 b κατηγορεῖται ἐν τῷ τί ἐστι, χρήσιμον. συμβήσεται  
 γὰρ τὸ γένος καὶ τὸ εἶδος τοῦ αὐτοῦ ἐν τῷ τί ἐστι

to show that one of the higher genera is predicated in the category of essence. For example, if someone has assigned 'impulsion' as the genus of 'walking,' it is not enough to show that walking is 'motion' in order to show that it is 'impulsion,' since there are other forms of motion also; but it must be further shown that walking partakes of none of the other forces of motion which result from the same division except 'impulsion.' For that which partakes of the genus must necessarily also partake of one of the species resulting from the first division of it. If, therefore, walking partakes neither of increase or decrease nor of any of the other kinds of motion, obviously it would partake of impulsion, so that impulsion would be the genus of walking.

Again, in cases where the species asserted is predicated as genus, you must look and see whether that which is assigned as genus is also predicated in the category of essence of the very things of which the species is predicated, and likewise, whether the same is also true of all the genera higher than this genus. For, if there is any discrepancy anywhere, obviously what has been assigned is not the genus; for, if it were genus, all the genera higher than it and this genus itself would be predicated in the category of essence of all those things of which the species also is predicated in the category of essence. For destructive criticism, then, it is useful to see whether the genus is not predicated in the category of essence of those things of which the species is also predicated. For constructive purposes, on the other hand, it is useful to see whether it *is* predicated in the category of essence; for then the result will be that the genus and the species are predicated of the

(k) The genus is predicated in the category of essence of those things of which the species is predicated.

κατηγορεῖσθαι, ὥστε τὸ αὐτὸ ὑπὸ δύο γένη γίνεται.  
 ἀναγκαῖον οὖν ὑπ' ἄλληλα τὰ γένη εἶναι. ἂν οὖν  
 5 δειχθῇ, ὃ βουλόμεθα γένος κατασκευάσαι, μὴ ὄν  
 ὑπὸ τὸ εἶδος, δῆλον ὅτι τὸ εἶδος ὑπὸ τοῦτ' ἂν εἴη,  
 ὥστε δεδειγμένον ἂν εἴη ὅτι γένος τοῦτο.

Σκοπεῖν δὲ καὶ τοὺς λόγους τῶν γενῶν, εἰ ἐφαρ-  
 μόττουςιν ἐπὶ τε τὸ ἀποδοθὲν εἶδος καὶ τὰ μετ-  
 ἔχοντα τοῦ εἶδους. ἀνάγκη γὰρ τοὺς τῶν γενῶν  
 10 λόγους κατηγορεῖσθαι τοῦ εἶδους καὶ τῶν μετ-  
 εχόντων τοῦ εἶδους· εἰ οὖν που διαφωνεῖ, δῆλον  
 ὅτι οὐ γένος τὸ ἀποδοθέν.

Πάλιν εἰ τὴν διαφορὰν ὡς γένος ἀπέδωκεν,  
 οἶον εἰ τὸ ἀθάνατον γένος θεοῦ. διαφορὰ γάρ ἐστι  
 ζώου τὸ ἀθάνατον, ἐπειδὴ τῶν ζώων τὰ μὲν θνητὰ  
 15 τὰ δ' ἀθάνατα. δῆλον οὖν ὅτι διημάρτηται· οὐ-  
 δενὸς γὰρ ἡ διαφορὰ γένος ἐστίν. ὅτι δὲ τοῦτ'  
 ἀληθές, δῆλον· οὐδεμία γὰρ διαφορὰ σημαίνει τί  
 ἐστίν, ἀλλὰ μᾶλλον ποιόν τι, καθάπερ τὸ πεζὸν  
 καὶ τὸ δίπουν.

Καὶ εἰ τὴν διαφορὰν εἰς τὸ γένος ἔθηκεν, οἶον  
 τὸ περιττὸν ὅπερ ἀριθμὸν. διαφορὰ γὰρ ἀριθμοῦ  
 20 τὸ περιττόν, οὐκ εἶδος ἐστίν. οὐδὲ δοκεῖ μετέχειν  
 ἢ διαφορὰ τοῦ γένους· πᾶν γὰρ τὸ μετέχον τοῦ  
 γένους ἢ εἶδος ἢ ἄτομόν ἐστιν, ἢ δὲ διαφορὰ οὔτε  
 εἶδος οὔτε ἄτομόν ἐστιν. δῆλον οὖν ὅτι οὐ μετέχει  
 434



## TOPICA, IV. II

same thing in the category of essence, so that the same object falls under two genera; the genera, therefore, must necessarily fall one under the other, and so, if it has been shown that what we wish to establish as a genus does not fall under the species, it is obvious that the species would fall under it, so that it would have been shown that it is the genus.

You must also examine the definitions of the genera to see if they fit both the species assigned and the things which partake of the species. For the definitions of the genera must also be predicated of the species and of the things which partake of the species. If, therefore, there is a discrepancy anywhere, it is obvious that what has been assigned is not the genus.

(l) The definitions of the genera must suit the species and the things which partake of it.

Again, you must see whether your opponent has assigned the differentia as the genus, for example, 'immortal' as the genus of 'God.' For 'immortal' is a differentia of 'living creature'; for some living creatures are mortal and some immortal. It is, therefore, obvious that an error has been committed; for the differentia is never the genus of anything. This is clearly true; for no differentia indicates the essence, but rather some quality, such as 'pedestrian' and 'biped.'

(m) The differentia must not be assigned as genus.

Also, you must see whether he has put the differentia inside the genus, for example, whether he has given 'odd' as a 'number,' for 'odd' is a differentia of number, not a species. Nor is the differentia generally held to partake of the genus; for everything which partakes of the genus is either a species or an individual, but the differentia is neither a species nor an individual. It is obvious, therefore, that the differentia does not partake of

(n) The differentia must not be placed within the genus.

122 b

τοῦ γένους ἢ διαφορά, ὥστ' οὐδὲ τὸ περιττὸν εἶδος ἂν εἴη ἀλλὰ διαφορά, ἐπειδὴ οὐ μετέχει τοῦ γένους.

- 25 Ἔτι εἰ τὸ γένος εἰς τὸ εἶδος ἔθηκεν, οἷον τὴν ἄψιν ὅπερ συνοχὴν ἢ τὴν μίξιν ὅπερ κρᾶσιν, ἢ ὡς Πλάτων ὀρίζεται φορὰν τὴν κατὰ τόπον κίνησιν. οὐ γὰρ ἀναγκαῖον τὴν ἄψιν συνοχὴν εἶναι, ἀλλ' ἀνάπαλιν τὴν συνοχὴν ἄψιν. οὐ γὰρ πᾶν τὸ
- 30 ἀπτόμενον συνέχεται, ἀλλὰ τὸ συνεχόμενον ἀπτεται. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν λοιπῶν. οὔτε γὰρ ἢ μίξις ἅπαντα κρᾶσις (ἢ γὰρ τῶν ξηρῶν μίξις οὐκ ἔστι κρᾶσις) οὔθ' ἢ κατὰ τόπον μεταβολὴ πᾶσα φορά. ἢ γὰρ βάδισις οὐ δοκεῖ φορὰ εἶναι. σχεδὸν γὰρ ἢ φορὰ ἐπὶ τῶν ἀκουσίως τόπον ἐκ τόπου
- 35 μεταβαλλόντων λέγεται, καθάπερ ἐπὶ τῶν ἀψύχων συμβαίνει. δῆλον δ' ὅτι καὶ ἐπὶ πλέον λέγεται τὸ εἶδος τοῦ γένους ἐν τοῖς ἀποδοθείσι, δέον ἀνάπαλιν γίνεσθαι.

- Πάλιν εἰ τὴν διαφορὰν εἰς τὸ εἶδος ἔθηκεν, οἷον τὸ ἀθάνατον ὅπερ θεόν. συμβήσεται γὰρ [ἐπ' ἴσης ἢ]<sup>1</sup> ἐπὶ πλείον τὸ εἶδος λέγεσθαι. αἰεὶ γὰρ ἢ
- 123 a διαφορὰ ἐπ' ἴσης ἢ ἐπὶ πλείον τοῦ εἶδους λέγεται. ἔτι εἰ τὸ γένος εἰς τὴν διαφορὰν, οἷον τὸ χρῶμα ὅπερ συγκριτικὸν ἢ τὸν ἀριθμὸν ὅπερ περιττόν. καὶ εἰ τὸ γένος ὡς διαφορὰν εἶπεν. ἐγχωρεῖ γάρ

<sup>1</sup> Omitting ἐπ' ἴσης ἢ with Strache.

the genus ; so that ' odd ' too cannot be a species but must be a differentia, since it does not partake of the genus.

Further, you must see whether your opponent has placed the genus inside the species, taking, for example, ' contact ' as ' conjunction ' or ' mixture ' as ' fusion,' or, according to Plato's definition,<sup>a</sup> ' locomotion ' as ' impulsion.' For ' contact ' is not necessarily ' conjunction,' but the converse is true namely, that ' conjunction ' is ' contact ' ; for what is in contact is not always conjoined, but that which is conjoined is always in contact. Similarly also with the other instances ; for ' mixture ' is not always ' fusion ' (for the mixture of dry substances is not fusion) nor is ' locomotion ' always ' impulsion.' For walking is not generally held to be ' impulsion ' ; for ' impulsion ' is generally used of objects which change their position involuntarily, as happens to inanimate things. It is obvious, also, that the species is used in a wider sense than the genus in the above examples, whereas the converse ought to be true.

Again, you must see whether he has placed the differentia within the species, for example, if he has taken ' immortal ' as what ' God ' is. For this will result in the species being used in a greater number of cases ; for it is the differentia which is always used in an equal number of cases or in a greater number of cases than the species. Again, you must see whether he has put the genus within the differentia ; for example, if he has taken ' colour ' as that which is ' compressive ' <sup>b</sup> or ' number ' as ' odd.' You must also see if he has stated the genus as the differentia ; for it is possible to produce a thesis of this kind also,

(o) The genus must not be placed within the species.

(p) The differentia must not be placed within the species nor the genus within the differentia.

<sup>a</sup> *Theaet.* 181 D 5.

<sup>b</sup> *Cf.* 107 b 30 and note.

123 a

τινα καὶ τοιαύτην κομίσαι θέσιν, οἷον κράσεως τὴν  
 5 μίξιν διαφορὰν ἢ φορᾶς τὴν κατὰ τόπον μεταβολήν.  
 σκεπτέον δὲ πάντα τὰ τοιαῦτα διὰ τῶν αὐτῶν.  
 ἐπικοινωνοῦσι γὰρ οἱ τόποι· ἐπὶ πλεόν τε γὰρ τὸ  
 γένος τῆς διαφορᾶς δεῖ λέγεσθαι, καὶ μὴ μετέχειν  
 τῆς διαφορᾶς. οὕτω δ' ἀποδοθέντος οὐδέτερον  
 τῶν εἰρημένων δυνατόν συμβαίνειν· ἐπ' ἑλαττόν  
 10 τε γὰρ ῥηθήσεται, καὶ μεθέξει τὸ γένος τῆς  
 διαφορᾶς.

Πάλιν εἰ μηδεμία διαφορὰ κατηγορεῖται τῶν τοῦ  
 γένους κατὰ τοῦ ἀποδοθέντος εἶδους, οὐδὲ τὸ  
 γένος κατηγορηθήσεται, οἷον ψυχῆς οὔτε τὸ πε-  
 ριττὸν οὔτε τὸ ἄρτιον κατηγορεῖται, ὥστ' οὐδ'  
 ἀριθμός. ἔτι εἰ πρότερον φύσει τὸ εἶδος καὶ  
 15 συναναιρεῖ τὸ γένος· δοκεῖ γὰρ τὸ ἐναντίον. ἔτι  
 εἰ ἐνδέχεται ἀπολιπεῖν τὸ εἰρημένον γένος ἢ τὴν  
 διαφορὰν, οἷον ψυχὴν τὸ κινεῖσθαι ἢ δόξαν τὸ  
 ἀληθὲς καὶ ψεῦδος, οὐκ ἂν εἴη τῶν εἰρημένων  
 οὐδέτερον γένος οὐδὲ διαφορὰ· δοκεῖ γὰρ τὸ γένος  
 καὶ ἡ διαφορὰ παρακολουθεῖν, ἕως ἂν ἡ τὸ εἶδος.  
 20 III. Σκοπεῖν δὲ καὶ εἰ τὸ ἐν τῷ γένει κείμενον  
 μετέχει τινὸς ἐναντίου τῷ γένει ἢ εἰ ἐνδέχεται  
 μετέχειν· τὸ γὰρ αὐτὸ τῶν ἐναντίων ἅμα μεθέξει,  
 ἐπειδὴ τὸ μὲν γένος οὐδέποτ' ἀπολείπει, μετέχει  
 δὲ καὶ τοῦναντίου ἢ ἐνδέχεται μετέχειν. ἔτι εἰ  
 τινος κοινωνεῖ τὸ εἶδος, ὃ ἀδύνατον ὅλως ὑπάρχειν  
 25 τοῖς ὑπὸ τὸ γένος. οἷον εἰ ἡ ψυχὴ τῆς ζωῆς

<sup>a</sup> Cf. *Met.* 1059 b 30 ff.



for example, making 'mixture' the differentia of 'fusion' or 'locomotion' of 'impulsion.' All such cases must be examined by the same methods (for the commonplaces are inter-related); for the genus must both be used in a wider sense than its differentia and not partake of its differentia. But, if the genus is assigned as differentia, neither of the above conditions can occur; for the genus will be used in a narrower sense and will partake of the differentia.

Again, if no differentia belonging to the genus is predicated of the species assigned, neither will the genus be predicated of it; for example, neither 'odd' nor 'even' is predicated of 'soul,' and so 'number' is not predicated of it either. Further, you must see whether the species is prior by nature and destroys the genus along with itself<sup>a</sup>; for the contrary view is generally held. Further, if it is possible for the genus stated or its differentia to be separated from the species, for example, 'motion' from the 'soul' or 'truth and falsehood' from 'opinion,' then neither of the said terms would be the genus or its differentia; for it is generally held that the genus and its differentia attend the species as long as it exists.

III. You must also see whether what is placed in the genus partakes, or could possibly partake, of something contrary to the genus; for then the same thing will partake of contraries at the same time, since the genus never leaves it, and it also partakes, or can possibly partake, of its contrary. Further, you must see whether the species participates in anything which cannot by any possibility belong to anything which falls under the genus. For example, if the soul participates in life, and it is impossible

(q) If no differentia of the genus is predicated of the species, the genus cannot be predicated of it.

(r) The genus is prior to the species.

(s) The genus and its differentia accompany the species.

(t) What is placed in the genus cannot partake of anything contrary to the genus.

123 a

κοινωνεῖ, τῶν δ' ἀριθμῶν μηδένα δυνατὸν ζῆν, οὐκ ἂν εἴη εἶδος ἀριθμοῦ ἢ ψυχῆ.

Σκεπτέον δὲ καὶ εἰ ὁμώνυμον τὸ εἶδος τῷ γένει, στοιχείοις χρώμενον τοῖς εἰρημένοις πρὸς τὸ ὁμώνυμον· συνώνυμον γὰρ τὸ γένος καὶ τὸ εἶδος.

- 30 Ἐπεὶ δὲ παντὸς γένους εἶδη πλείω, σκοπεῖν εἰ μὴ ἐνδέχεται ἕτερον εἶδος εἶναι τοῦ εἰρημένου γένους· εἰ γὰρ μή ἐστι, δῆλον ὅτι οὐκ ἂν εἴη ὅλως γένος τὸ εἰρημένον.

Σκοπεῖν δὲ καὶ εἰ τὸ μεταφορᾷ λεγόμενον ὡς γένος ἀποδέδωκεν, οἷον τὴν σωφροσύνην συμφω-  
35 νίαν· πᾶν γὰρ γένος κυρίως κατὰ τῶν εἰδῶν κατηγορεῖται, ἢ δὲ συμφωνία κατὰ τῆς σωφροσύνης οὐ κυρίως ἀλλὰ μεταφορᾷ· πᾶσα γὰρ συμφωνία ἐν φθόγοις.

123 b

- Ἔτι ἂν ἡ ἐναντίον τι τῷ εἶδει, σκοπεῖν. ἔστι δὲ πλεοναχῶς ἢ σκέψις, πρῶτον μὲν εἰ ἐν τῷ αὐτῷ γένει καὶ τὸ ἐναντίον, μὴ ὄντος ἐναντίου τῷ γένει· δεῖ γὰρ τὰ ἐναντία ἐν τῷ αὐτῷ γένει εἶναι,  
5 ἂν μηδὲν ἐναντίον τῷ γένει ἡ. ὄντος δ' ἐναντίου τῷ γένει, σκοπεῖν εἰ τὸ ἐναντίον ἐν τῷ ἐναντίῳ· ἀνάγκη γὰρ τὸ ἐναντίον ἐν τῷ ἐναντίῳ εἶναι, ἄνπερ ἡ ἐναντίον τι τῷ γένει. φανερόν δὲ τούτων ἕκαστον διὰ τῆς ἐπαγωγῆς. πάλιν εἰ ὅλως ἐν μηδενὶ γένει τὸ τῷ εἶδει ἐναντίον, ἀλλ' αὐτὸ γένος,  
10 οἷον τὰ γαθόν· εἰ γὰρ τοῦτο μὴ ἐν γένει, οὐδὲ τὸ ἐναντίον τούτου ἐν γένει ἔσται, ἀλλ' αὐτὸ γένος,

## TOPICA, IV. III

for any number to live, the soul could not be a species of number.

You must also see whether the species is used equivocally of the genus, employing the principles already laid down for dealing with the equivocals <sup>a</sup>; for the genus and the species are synonymous.

Since of every genus there are always several species, you must see whether it is impossible for there to be another species of the genus stated; for if there is none, it is obvious that what has been stated could not be a genus at all.

You must also see whether your opponent has assigned as a genus a term used metaphorically, speaking, for example, of 'temperance' as a 'harmony'; for every genus is predicated of its species in its proper sense, but 'harmony' is predicated of temperance not in its proper sense but metaphorically; for a harmony consists always of sounds.

Further, you must examine any contrary that there may be of the species. This examination may take several forms, the first being to see whether the contrary also exists in the same genus, the genus itself having no contrary; for contraries must of necessity be in the same genus, if there is no contrary to the genus. If, however, there is a contrary to the genus, you must see whether the contrary of the species is in the contrary genus; for the contrary species must necessarily be in the contrary genus if the genus has a contrary. Each of these points is made clear by induction. Again, you must see whether the contrary of the species is not found in any genus at all, but is itself a genus, for example, 'good'; for if this is not found in any genus, neither will its contrary be found in any genus, but will itself

(u) The species must not be used equivocally of the genus.

(v) A genus cannot exist of only one species.

(w) The use of metaphorical language is misleading.

Rules drawn from:  
(a) Contraries.

καθάπερ ἐπὶ τοῦ ἀγαθοῦ καὶ τοῦ κακοῦ συμβαίνει·  
οὐδέτερον γὰρ τούτων ἐν γένει, ἀλλ' ἐκάτερον  
αὐτῶν γένος. ἔτι εἰ ἐναντίον τινὶ καὶ τὸ γένος  
καὶ τὸ εἶδος, καὶ τῶν μὲν ἔστι τι μεταξύ, τῶν δὲ  
15 μὴ. εἰ γὰρ τῶν γενῶν ἔστι τι μεταξύ, καὶ τῶν  
εἰδῶν, καὶ εἰ τῶν εἰδῶν, καὶ τῶν γενῶν, καθάπερ  
ἐπ' ἀρετῆς καὶ κακίας καὶ δικαιοσύνης καὶ ἀδι-  
κίας· ἐκατέρων γὰρ ἔστι τι μεταξύ. ἔνστασις  
τούτου ὅτι ὑγείας καὶ νόσου οὐδὲν μεταξύ, κακοῦ  
δὲ καὶ ἀγαθοῦ. ἢ εἰ ἔστι μὲν τι ἀμφοῖν ἀνὰ μέσον,  
καὶ τῶν εἰδῶν καὶ τῶν γενῶν, μὴ ὁμοίως δέ, ἀλλὰ  
20 τῶν μὲν κατὰ ἀπόφασιν τῶν δ' ὡς ὑποκείμενον.  
ἐνδοξον γὰρ τὸ ὁμοίως ἀμφοῖν, καθάπερ ἐπ' ἀρετῆς  
καὶ κακίας καὶ δικαιοσύνης καὶ ἀδικίας· ἀμφοῖν  
γὰρ κατὰ ἀπόφασιν τὰ ἀνὰ μέσον. ἔτι ὅταν μὴ  
ἦ ἐναντίον τῷ γένει, σκοπεῖν μὴ μόνον εἰ τὸ ἐναν-  
25 τίον ἐν τῷ αὐτῷ γένει, ἀλλὰ καὶ τὸ ἀνὰ μέσον· ἐν  
ᾧ γὰρ τὰ ἄκρα, καὶ τὰ ἀνὰ μέσον, οἷον ἐπὶ λευκοῦ  
καὶ μέλανος· τὸ γὰρ χρῶμα γένος τούτων τε καὶ  
τῶν ἀνὰ μέσον χρωμάτων πάντων. ἔνστασις ὅτι  
ἢ μὲν ἔνδεια καὶ ὑπερβολὴ ἐν τῷ αὐτῷ γένει (ἐν  
τῷ κακῷ γὰρ ἄμφω), τὸ δὲ μέτριον ἀνὰ μέσον ὃν  
30 τούτων οὐκ ἐν τῷ κακῷ ἀλλ' ἐν τῷ ἀγαθῷ. σκο-  
πεῖν δὲ καὶ εἰ τὸ μὲν γένος ἐναντίον τινί, τὸ δὲ



## TOPICA, IV. III

be a genus, as happens with 'good' and 'evil'; for neither of them is found in a genus, but each of them is a genus. Further, you must see whether both genus and species are contrary to something, and whether there is an intermediate between one pair of contraries but not between the other. For, if there is an intermediate between the genera, there will also be one between the species, and, if between the species, likewise also between the genera, as in the case of virtue and vice and justice and injustice; for each pair has an intermediate. (It may be objected here that there is no intermediate between health and disease as there is between evil and good.) Or, again, you must see whether, though there is an intermediate between both pairs, that is, between the species and between the genera, yet not in a similar way, but in one case negatively and in the others as a subject. For it is generally held that the intermediate is of a similar kind in both cases, as happens with virtue and vice, and justice and injustice; for between both of these pairs the intermediates are purely negative. Further, when there is no contrary to the genus, you must see not only whether the contrary is in the same genus, but whether the intermediate is so also; for the intermediates are in the same genus as the extremes, in the case, for example, of black and white, for colour is the genus of both of these and of all the intermediate colours. (It may be objected that 'defect' and 'excess' are in the same genus—for both are in the genus of 'evil'—whereas 'what is moderate,' which is intermediate between them, is not in the genus of 'evil,' but in that of 'good.') You must also see whether, whereas the genus is contrary to

123 b

εἶδος μηδενί. εἰ γὰρ τὸ γένος ἐναντίον τινί, καὶ τὸ εἶδος, καθάπερ ἀρετὴ κακία καὶ δικαιοσύνη ἀδικία. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων σκοποῦντι φανερόν ἂν δόξειεν εἶναι τὸ τοιοῦτον. ἔνστασις  
 35 ἐπὶ τῆς ὑγείας καὶ νόσου· ἀπλῶς μὲν γὰρ πᾶσα ὑγίεια νόσῳ ἐναντίον, ἡ δέ τις νόσος εἶδος ὃν νόσου οὐδενὶ ἐναντίον, οἷον ὁ πυρετὸς καὶ ἡ ὀφθαλμία καὶ τῶν ἄλλων ἕκαστον.

124 a

Ἀναιροῦντι μὲν οὖν τοσαυταχῶς ἐπισκεπτέον· εἰ γὰρ μὴ ὑπάρχει τὰ εἰρημένα, δηλὸν ὅτι οὐ γένος τὸ ἀποδοθέν· κατασκευάζοντι δὲ τριχῶς, πρῶτον μὲν εἰ τὸ ἐναντίον τῷ εἶδει ἐν τῷ εἰρημένῳ γένει,  
 5 μὴ ὄντος ἐναντίου τῷ γένει· εἰ γὰρ τὸ ἐναντίον ἐν τούτῳ, δηλὸν ὅτι καὶ τὸ προκείμενον. ἔτι εἰ τὸ ἀνὰ μέσον ἐν τῷ εἰρημένῳ γένει· ἐν ᾧ γὰρ τὸ ἀνὰ μέσον, καὶ τὰ ἄκρα. πάλιν ἂν ἢ ἐναντίον τι τῷ γένει, σκοπεῖν εἰ καὶ τὸ ἐναντίον ἐν τῷ ἐναντίῳ· ἂν γὰρ ἢ, δηλὸν ὅτι καὶ τὸ προκείμενον ἐν τῷ προκειμένῳ.

10 Πάλιν ἐπὶ τῶν πτώσεων καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν συστοίχων, εἰ ὁμοίως ἀκολουθοῦσι, καὶ ἀναιροῦντι καὶ κατασκευάζοντι. ἅμα γὰρ ἐνὶ καὶ πᾶσιν ὑπάρχει ἢ οὐχ ὑπάρχει, οἷον εἰ ἡ δικαιοσύνη ἐπιστήμη τις,

something, the species is not contrary to anything ; for, if the genus is contrary to something, so also is the species, as virtue is the contrary of vice, and justice of injustice. Similarly, if one examines the other cases also, such a view would appear evident. (There is an objection with regard to health and disease ; for health, generally speaking, is always contrary to disease, yet a particular disease, which is a species of disease, for example, a fever or ophthalmia or any other specific disease, is not the contrary of anything.)

Such then are the various inquiries which should be made when one is seeking to demolish an opinion ; for, if the conditions mentioned above are not present, it is clear that what has been assigned is not the genus. For constructive argument, on the other hand, there are three methods of procedure. Firstly, you must see whether the contrary of the species is found in the genus named when there is no contrary to the genus ; for, if the contrary is found in it, obviously the proposed species is also found there. Further, you must see whether the intermediate is found in the genus named ; for the extremes are found in the same genus as the intermediates. Again, if there is a contrary to the genus, you must see whether the contrary species is also found in the contrary genus ; for, if it is, clearly the proposed species is also found in the proposed genus.

Again, you must take the inflexions and the co-ordinates and see if they follow similarly, both in destructive and constructive argument. For whatever belongs or does not belong to one, at the same time belongs or does not belong to all ; for example, if justice is a kind of knowledge, then also, ' justly '

(The use of  
contraries  
in con-  
structive  
argument.)

(b) In-  
flexions  
and co-  
ordinates.

124 a

καὶ τὸ δικαίως ἐπιστημόνως καὶ ὁ δίκαιος ἐπιστή-  
μων· εἰ δὲ τούτων τι μὴ, οὐδὲ τῶν λοιπῶν οὐδέν.

- 15 IV. Πάλιν ἐπὶ τῶν ὁμοίως ἔχόντων πρὸς ἄλληλα,  
οἷον τὸ ἡδὺ ὁμοίως ἔχει πρὸς τὴν ἡδονὴν καὶ τὸ  
ὠφέλιμον πρὸς τὰγαθόν· ἐκάτερον γὰρ ἑκατέρου  
ποιητικόν. εἰ οὖν ἐστὶν ἡ ἡδονὴ ὅπερ ἀγαθόν,  
καὶ τὸ ἡδὺ ὅπερ ὠφέλιμον ἔσται· δῆλον γὰρ ὅτι  
20 ἀγαθοῦ ἂν εἴη ποιητικόν, ἐπειδὴ ἡ ἡδονὴ ἀγαθόν.  
ὡσαύτως δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν γενέσεων καὶ φθορῶν,  
οἷον εἰ τὸ οἰκοδομεῖν ἐνεργεῖν, τὸ ὠκοδομηκέναι  
ἐνηργηκέναι, καὶ εἰ τὸ μανθάνειν ἀναμιμνήσκεσθαι,  
καὶ τὸ μεμαθηκέναι ἀναμεμνήσθαι, καὶ εἰ τὸ  
διαλύεσθαι φθείρεσθαι, τὸ διαλελύσθαι ἐφθάρθαι  
25 καὶ ἡ διάλυσις φθορά τις. καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν γενητικῶν  
δὲ καὶ φθαρτικῶν ὡσαύτως, καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν δυνά-  
μεων καὶ χρήσεων, καὶ ὅλως καθ' ὅποιανούν  
ὁμοιότητα καὶ ἀναιροῦντι καὶ κατασκευάζοντι  
σκεπτέον, καθάπερ ἐπὶ τῆς γενέσεως καὶ φθορᾶς  
ἐλέγομεν. εἰ γὰρ τὸ φθαρτικὸν διαλυτικόν, καὶ  
τὸ φθείρεσθαι διαλύεσθαι· καὶ εἰ τὸ γενητικόν  
30 ποιητικόν, τὸ γίνεσθαι ποιεῖσθαι καὶ ἡ γένεσις  
ποίησις. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν δυνάμεων καὶ  
χρήσεων· εἰ γὰρ ἡ δύναμις διάθεσις, καὶ τὸ δύ-  
νασθαι διακεῖσθαι, καὶ εἴ τινος ἡ χρῆσις ἐνέργεια,  
τὸ χρῆσθαι ἐνεργεῖν καὶ τὸ κεχρῆσθαι ἐνηργηκέναι.  
35 Ἄν δὲ στέρησις ἢ τὸ ἀντικείμενον τῷ εἶδει,  
διχῶς ἔστιν ἀνελεῖν, πρῶτον μὲν εἰ ἐν τῷ ἀπο-



## TOPICA, IV. III-IV

is 'knowingly,' and 'the just man' is 'the man of knowledge'; but if one of these things is not true, none of the rest is true either.

IV. Again, you must take things which stand in a similar relation to one another. For example, the pleasant stands in the same relation to pleasure as the beneficial to the good; for in each case the one is productive of the other. If, therefore, pleasure is what is good, then the pleasant will be what is beneficial; for it is clear that it would be productive of good, since pleasure is a good. So likewise with the processes of generation and destruction; if, for example, to build is to be active, to have built is to have been active, and, if to learn is to remember, to have learnt is to have remembered, and, if to be dissolved is to be destroyed, to have been dissolved is to have been destroyed, and dissolution is a kind of destruction. You must deal in the same way with the agents of generation and destruction and with the capacities and uses of things, and, in short, both in destructive and constructive argument, you must make your examination in the light of any possible likeness, as we stated in dealing with generation and destruction. For, if what is destructive is dissolvent, then to be destroyed is to be dissolved; and if what is generative is productive, then to be generated is to be produced, and generation is production. So, also, with capacities and uses; if capacity is a disposition, then to be capable of something is to be disposed to it, and, if the use of something is an activity, then to use is to be active, and to have used is to have been active.

(c) Similarity of relation.

(d) Generation and destruction.

(e) Capacities and uses of things.

If the opposite of the species is a privation, we can demolish an argument in two ways, firstly, by seeing

(f) Opposition between states

124 a

δοθέντι γένει τὸ ἀντικείμενον· ἢ γὰρ ἀπλῶς ἐν οὐδενὶ γένει τῷ αὐτῷ ἢ στέρησις, ἢ οὐκ ἐν τῷ ἐσχάτῳ, οἷον εἰ ἢ ὄψις ἐν ἐσχάτῳ γένει τῇ αἰσθήσει, ἢ τυφλότης οὐκ ἔσται αἰσθησις. δεύτερον

124 b

δ' εἰ καὶ τῷ γένει καὶ τῷ εἶδει ἀντίκειται στέρησις, μὴ ἔστι δὲ τὸ ἀντικείμενον ἐν τῷ ἀντικειμένῳ, οὐδ' ἂν τὸ ἀποδοθὲν ἐν τῷ ἀποδοθέντι εἴη. ἀναιροῦντι μὲν οὖν καθάπερ εἴρηται χρηστόν, κατασκευάζοντι δὲ μοναχῶς· εἰ γὰρ τὸ ἀντικείμενον 5 ἐν τῷ ἀντικειμένῳ, καὶ τὸ προκείμενον ἐν τῷ προκειμένῳ ἂν εἴη, οἷον εἰ ἢ τυφλότης ἀναισθησίαις, ἢ ὄψις αἰσθησίαις τις.

Πάλιν ἐπὶ τῶν ἀποφάσεων σκοπεῖν ἀνάπαλιν, καθάπερ ἐπὶ τοῦ συμβεβηκότος ἐλέγετο, οἷον εἰ τὸ ἡδὺ ὅπερ ἀγαθόν, τὸ μὴ ἀγαθὸν οὐχ ἡδύ. εἰ 10 γὰρ μὴ οὕτως ἔχοι, εἴη ἂν τι καὶ οὐκ ἀγαθὸν ἡδύ. ἀδύνατον δέ, εἴπερ τὸ ἀγαθὸν γένος τοῦ ἡδέος, εἶναί τι μὴ ἀγαθὸν ἡδύ· ὦν γὰρ τὸ γένος μὴ κατηγορεῖται, οὐδὲ τῶν εἰδῶν οὐδέν. καὶ κατασκευάζοντι δὲ ὡσαύτως σκεπτέον· εἰ γὰρ τὸ μὴ ἀγαθὸν οὐχ ἡδύ, τὸ ἡδὺ ἀγαθόν, ὥστε γένος τὸ ἀγαθὸν τοῦ ἡδέος.

15 Ἐὰν δ' ἢ πρὸς τι τὸ εἶδος, σκοπεῖν εἰ καὶ τὸ γένος πρὸς τι· εἰ γὰρ τὸ εἶδος τῶν πρὸς τι, καὶ τὸ γένος, καθάπερ ἐπὶ τοῦ διπλασίου καὶ πολλαπλασίου· ἐκάτερον γὰρ τῶν πρὸς τι. εἰ δὲ τὸ

## TOPICA, IV. IV

whether the opposite is found in the genus assigned ; and their privations.  
 for either the privation is not found anywhere at all in the same genus or not in the ultimate genus ; for example, if sight is found in sensation as the ultimate genus, blindness will not be a sensation. Secondly, if a privation is opposed both to the genus and to the species, but the opposite of the species is not found in the opposite of the genus, then neither can the species assigned be in the genus assigned. For destructive criticism, then, you should use the above two methods ; but for constructive argument there is only one method. If the opposite species is found in the opposite genus, then the proposed species would be found in the proposed genus ; for example, if blindness is a kind of insensibility, then sight is a kind of sensation.

Again, you must take the negations and examine them, reversing the order of the terms, as was described in dealing with the accident <sup>(g)</sup> *a* ; for example, if the pleasant is what is good, what is not good is not pleasant, for otherwise something not good would also be pleasant. Now it is impossible, if good is the genus of pleasant, that anything not good would be pleasant ; for, where the genus is not predicated, neither can any of the species be predicated. For constructive argument a similar examination must be made ; for, if what is not good is not pleasant, the pleasant is good, and so ' good ' is the genus of ' pleasant.'

If the species is a relative term, you must see whether the genus is also a relative term ; for, if the species is a relative term, so also is the genus, for example, ' double ' and ' multiple ' ; for each is a relative term. If, however, the genus is a rela-

(g) Contradictory oppositions.

(h) Relative oppositions.

γένος τῶν πρὸς τι, οὐκ ἀνάγκη καὶ τὸ εἶδος· ἡ  
 μὲν γὰρ ἐπιστήμη τῶν πρὸς τι, ἡ δὲ γραμματικὴ  
 20 οὐ. ἢ οὐδὲ τὸ πρότερον ῥηθὲν ἀληθὲς ἂν δόξειεν·  
 ἡ γὰρ ἀρετὴ ὅπερ καλὸν καὶ ὅπερ ἀγαθόν, καὶ ἡ  
 μὲν ἀρετὴ τῶν πρὸς τι, τὸ δ' ἀγαθὸν καὶ τὸ καλὸν  
 οὐ τῶν πρὸς τι ἀλλὰ ποιά.

Πάλιν εἰ μὴ πρὸς ταῦτό λέγεται τὸ εἶδος καθ'  
 αὐτό τε καὶ κατὰ τὸ γένος, οἷον εἰ τὸ διπλάσιον  
 25 ἡμίσεος λέγεται διπλάσιον, καὶ τὸ πολλαπλάσιον  
 ἡμίσεος δεῖ λέγεσθαι. εἰ δὲ μή, οὐκ ἂν εἴη τὸ  
 πολλαπλάσιον γένος τοῦ διπλασίου.

Ἔτι εἰ μὴ πρὸς ταῦτό κατὰ τε τὸ γένος λέγεται  
 καὶ κατὰ πάντα τὰ τοῦ γένους γένη. εἰ γὰρ τὸ  
 30 διπλάσιον ἡμίσεος πολλαπλάσιόν ἐστι, καὶ τὸ  
 ὑπερέχον ἡμίσεος ῥηθήσεται, καὶ ἀπλῶς κατὰ  
 πάντα τὰ ἐπάνω γένη πρὸς τὸ ἥμισυ ῥηθήσεται.  
 ἔνστασις ὅτι οὐκ ἀνάγκη καθ' αὐτὸ καὶ κατὰ τὸ  
 γένος πρὸς ταῦτό λέγεσθαι· ἡ γὰρ ἐπιστήμη ἐπι-  
 στητοῦ λέγεται, ἕξις δὲ καὶ διάθεσις οὐκ ἐπιστητοῦ  
 ἀλλὰ ψυχῆς.

35 Πάλιν εἰ ὡσαύτως λέγεται τὸ γένος καὶ τὸ εἶδος  
 κατὰ τὰς πτώσεις, οἷον εἰ τινὶ ἢ τινὸς ἢ ὁσαχῶς  
 ἄλλως. ὥς γὰρ τὸ εἶδος, καὶ τὸ γένος, καθάπερ  
 ἐπὶ τοῦ διπλασίου καὶ τῶν ἐπάνω· τινὸς γὰρ καὶ  
 450



## TOPICA, IV. IV

tive term, it does not necessarily follow that the species is so also; for 'knowledge' is a relative term, but 'grammar' is not. Or, possibly, it might be held that not even the first assertion is true; for 'virtue' is something 'honourable' and something 'good,' and yet, though 'virtue' is a relative term, 'good' and 'honourable' are not relative terms but qualities.

Again, you must see whether the species is not being used in the same relation both *per se* and in respect of the genus. For example, if 'double' is used in the sense of double of a half, then also 'multiple' ought to be used in the sense of multiple of a half; otherwise 'multiple' would not be the genus of 'double.'

Again, you must see whether the species is not being used in the same relation in respect of the genus and in respect of all the genera of the genus. For if the double is a multiple of the half, that which is 'in excess of' will also be used of the half, and in general it will be used in respect of all the higher genera in relation to the half. (An objection may be raised that a term is not necessarily referred to the same thing when it is used *per se* and when it is used in respect of the genus; for 'knowledge' is said to be of the 'knowable,' but is a 'state' or 'disposition' not of the 'knowable' but of the 'soul').

Again, you must see whether the genus and species are used in the same manner in respect of the inflexions which follow them, for example, as pertaining 'to' something, or predicated as being 'of' something, or in the other possible ways. For, as the species is predicated, so also is the genus, as, for example, in the case of the double and its higher

(4) Inflexions

124 b

τὸ διπλάσιον καὶ τὸ πολλαπλάσιον. ὁμοίως δὲ

125 a

καὶ ἐπὶ τῆς ἐπιστήμης· τινὸς γὰρ καὶ αὐτὴ καὶ  
τὰ γένη, οἷον ἢ τε διάθεσις καὶ ἢ ἕξις. ἔνστασις  
ὅτι ἐνιαχοῦ οὐχ οὕτως· τὸ μὲν γὰρ διάφορον καὶ  
τὸ ἐναντίον τινί, τὸ δ' ἕτερον, γένος ὃν τούτων,  
οὐ τινὶ ἀλλὰ τινός· ἕτερον γὰρ τινος λέγεται.

5 Πάλιν εἰ ὁμοίως τὰ πρὸς τι κατὰ τὰς πτώσεις  
λεγόμενα μὴ ὁμοίως ἀντιστρέφει, καθάπερ ἐπὶ  
τοῦ διπλασίου καὶ τοῦ πολλαπλασίου. ἑκάτερον  
γὰρ τούτων τινὸς καὶ αὐτὸ καὶ κατὰ τὴν ἀντι-  
στροφὴν λέγεται· τινὸς γὰρ καὶ τὸ ἡμισυ καὶ τὸ  
πολλοστημόριον. ὡσαύτως δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τῆς ἐπι-  
10 στήμης καὶ τῆς ὑπολήψεως· αὐταὶ γὰρ τινος,  
καὶ ἀντιστρέφει ὁμοίως τό τε ἐπιστητὸν καὶ τὸ  
ὑποληπτὸν τινί. εἰ οὖν ἐπὶ τινων μὴ ὁμοίως  
ἀντιστρέφει, δῆλον ὅτι οὐ γένος θάτερον θατέρου.

Πάλιν εἰ μὴ πρὸς ἴσα τὸ εἶδος καὶ τὸ γένος  
15 λέγεται. ὁμοίως γὰρ καὶ ἰσαχῶς ἑκάτερον δοκεῖ  
λέγεσθαι, καθάπερ ἐπὶ τῆς δωρεᾶς καὶ τῆς δόσεως.  
ἢ τε γὰρ δωρεὰ τινὸς ἢ τινὶ λέγεται, καὶ ἢ δόσις  
τινὸς καὶ τινί. ἔστι δὲ ἢ δόσις γένος τῆς δωρεᾶς·  
ἢ γὰρ δωρεὰ δόσις ἐστὶν ἀναπόδοτος. ἐπ' ἐνίων  
δ' οὐ συμβαίνει πρὸς ἴσα λέγεσθαι· τὸ μὲν γὰρ

## TOPICA, IV. IV

genera; for both the double and the multiple are predicated 'of' something. Similarly, too, in the case of 'knowledge'; for both 'knowledge' itself and its genera, for example, 'disposition' and 'state,' are said to be 'of' something. It may be objected that sometimes this is not true; for we say 'alien *to*' and 'contrary *to*,' but when we use 'different,' which is a genus of these terms, we add '*from*,' not '*to*'; for we say 'different *from*.'

Again, you must see whether terms which are used in the same manner in respect of the inflexions which follow them do not take the same cases when they are converted, as is the case with 'double' and 'multiple'; for each of these is said to be '*of*' something both in its original and in its converted form; for one thing is both 'a half of' and 'a fraction of' something else. Likewise with 'knowledge' and 'conception'; for these are followed by the genitive, and in the converted form 'knowable' and 'conceivable' are both alike followed by the dative. If, therefore, in any instance the converted forms do not take the same case, clearly the one is not the genus of the other.

Again, you must see whether the relative applica-  
 tion of the species and of the genus extends to an  
 equal number of things; for it is generally held that  
 the relative application of each is similar and co-  
 extensive as in the case of 'gift' and 'giving.'  
 For we speak of a gift *of* something or *to* someone,  
 and of a giving *of* something and *to* someone; and  
 'giving' is the genus of 'gift,' for a 'gift' is a  
 'giving which needs no giving in return.' But some-  
 times the relative applications do not extend to an  
 equal number of things; for double is double *of*

(j) Equality  
 of content  
 of species  
 and genus.

125 a

20 διπλάσιον τινὸς διπλάσιον, τὸ δ' ὑπερέχον καὶ τὸ  
 μείζον τινὸς καὶ τινί· πᾶν γὰρ τὸ ὑπερέχον καὶ  
 τὸ μείζον τινὶ ὑπερέχει καὶ τινὸς ὑπερέχει. ὥστ'  
 οὐ γένη τὰ εἰρημένα τοῦ διπλασίου, ἐπειδὴ οὐ  
 πρὸς ἴσα τῷ εἶδει λέγεται. ἢ οὐ καθόλου ἀληθὲς  
 τὸ πρὸς ἴσα τὸ εἶδος καὶ τὸ γένος λέγεσθαι.

25 Ὅραν δὲ καὶ εἰ τοῦ ἀντικειμένου τὸ ἀντικείμενον  
 γένος, οἷον εἰ τοῦ διπλασίου τὸ πολλαπλάσιον καὶ  
 τοῦ ἡμίσεος τὸ πολλοστημόριον· δεῖ γὰρ τὸ ἀντι-  
 κείμενον τοῦ ἀντικειμένου γένος εἶναι. εἰ οὖν τις  
 θείῃ τὴν ἐπιστήμην ὅπερ αἰσθησιν, δεήσει καὶ τὸ  
 ἐπιστητὸν ὅπερ αἰσθητὸν εἶναι. οὐκ ἔστι δέ· οὐ  
 30 γὰρ πᾶν τὸ ἐπιστητὸν αἰσθητόν· καὶ γὰρ τῶν  
 νοητῶν ἕνιά ἐπιστητά. ὥστ' οὐ γένος τὸ αἰσθητὸν  
 τοῦ ἐπιστητοῦ. εἰ δὲ τοῦτο μή, οὐδ' αἰσθησις  
 ἐπιστήμης.

Ἐπεὶ δὲ τῶν πρὸς τι λεγομένων τὰ μὲν ἐξ  
 ἀνάγκης ἐν ἐκείνοις ἢ περὶ ἐκείνᾳ ἐστὶ πρὸς ᾧ  
 35 ποτε τυγχάνει λεγόμενα, οἷον ἢ διάθεσις καὶ ἢ  
 ἕξις καὶ ἢ συμμετρία (ἐν ἄλλῳ γὰρ οὐδενὶ δυνατόν  
 ὑπάρχειν τὰ εἰρημένα ἢ ἐν ἐκείνοις πρὸς ᾧ λέγεται),  
 τὰ δ' οὐκ ἀνάγκη μὲν ἐν ἐκείνοις ὑπάρχειν πρὸς



## TOPICA, IV. IV

something, but we speak of 'in excess' (or 'greater') 'of' (or 'than') something else; and 'in' something; for what is 'in excess' (or 'greater') is always in excess *in* something as well as in excess *of* something.<sup>a</sup> So the above terms are not the genera of 'double,' since their relative application is not co-extensive with that of the species. Or perhaps it is not universally true that the relative application of the species and the genus extends to an equal number of things.

You must also see whether the opposite of the genus is the genus of the opposite of the species, for example, whether, if 'multiple' is the genus of 'double,' 'fraction' is also the genus of 'half'; for the opposite of the genus must be the genus of the opposite species. If, therefore, someone were to lay it down that knowledge is a kind of sense-perception, then also the object of knowledge will necessarily be a kind of object of sense-perception. But this is not so; for not every object of knowledge is an object of sensation, for some of the objects of intelligence are objects of knowledge. And so 'object of sensation' is not the genus of 'object of knowledge'; and, if this is true, neither is 'sensation' the genus of 'knowledge.'

Since of relative terms (a) some are necessarily found in, or employed about, those things in relation to which they happen at any time to be employed, for example, 'disposition,' 'state' and 'proportion' (for these terms cannot possibly exist anywhere else except in the things in relation to which they are employed), and (b) others do not necessarily exist in

(k) The opposite of the genus is the genus of the opposite of the species.

(l) The misuse of certain relative terms.

<sup>a</sup> For the cases used with the verb *ὑπερέχειν* cf. Plato, *Tim.* 24 D πάντων . . . ὑπερέχει μέγεθαι καὶ ἀρετῇ.

125 a

ἃ ποτε λέγεται, ἐνδέχεται δέ (οἷον εἰ ἐπιστητὸν ἢ ψυχὴ· οὐδὲν γὰρ κωλύει τὴν αὐτῆς ἐπιστήμην ἔχειν τὴν ψυχὴν, οὐκ ἀναγκαῖον δέ· δυνατόν γάρ

125 b

καὶ ἐν ἄλλῳ ὑπάρχειν τὴν αὐτὴν ταύτην), τὰ δ' ἀπλῶς οὐκ ἐνδέχεται ἐν ἐκείνοις ὑπάρχειν πρὸς ἃ ποτε τυγχάνει λεγόμενα (οἷον τὸ ἐναντίον ἐν τῷ ἐναντίῳ οὐδὲ τὴν ἐπιστήμην ἐν τῷ ἐπιστητῷ, ἐὰν μὴ τυγχάνῃ τὸ ἐπιστητὸν ψυχὴ ἢ ἄνθρωπος ὄν).

δ σκοπεῖν οὖν χρή, ἐάν τις εἰς γένος θῇ τὸ τοιοῦτον, <εἰ><sup>1</sup> εἰς τὸ μὴ τοιοῦτον, οἷον εἰ τὴν μνήμην μονὴν ἐπιστήμης εἶπεν. πᾶσα γὰρ μονὴ ἐν τῷ μένοντι καὶ περὶ ἐκείνο, ὥστε καὶ ἡ τῆς ἐπιστήμης μονὴ ἐν τῇ ἐπιστήμῃ. ἡ μνήμη ἄρα ἐν τῇ ἐπιστήμῃ, ἐπειδὴ μονὴ τῆς ἐπιστήμης ἐστίν. τοῦτο δ' οὐκ  
10 ἐνδέχεται· μνήμη γὰρ πᾶσα ἐν ψυχῇ. ἔστι δ' ὁ εἰρημένος τόπος καὶ πρὸς τὸ συμβεβηκὸς κοινός· οὐδὲν γὰρ διαφέρει τῆς μνήμης γένος τὴν μονὴν εἰπεῖν ἢ συμβεβηκέναι φάσκειν αὐτῇ τοῦτο· εἰ γὰρ ὅπως οὖν ἐστὶν ἡ μνήμη μονὴ ἐπιστήμης, ὁ αὐτὸς ἀρμόσει περὶ αὐτῆς λόγος.

15 V. Πάλιν εἰ τὴν ἕξιν εἰς τὴν ἐνέργειαν ἔθηκεν ἢ τὴν ἐνέργειαν εἰς τὴν ἕξιν, οἷον τὴν αἴσθησιν κίνησιν διὰ σώματος· ἡ μὲν γὰρ αἴσθησις ἕξις, ἡ δὲ κίνησις ἐνέργεια. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ εἰ τὴν μνήμην

<sup>1</sup> εἰ added by W. S. Maguinness.

## TOPICA, IV. iv-v

those things in relation to which they are employed at any particular time, though they *may* so exist (for example, if the soul be called an 'object of knowledge'; for there is nothing to prevent the soul from having knowledge of itself, though it does not *necessarily* possess it, for it is possible for this same knowledge to exist elsewhere), and (c) others simply cannot exist in those things in relation to which they happen to be employed at any particular time, for example, the contrary cannot exist in the contrary nor knowledge in the object of knowledge, unless the object of knowledge happens to be a soul or a man. If, therefore, someone places a term of a certain kind within a genus, you must look and see whether he has placed it within a genus which is not of that kind, for example, if it has been stated that 'memory' is the 'permanency of knowledge.' For 'permanency' always exists in, and is concerned with, that which is permanent, so that the permanency of knowledge also exists in knowledge. Memory, then, exists in knowledge, since it is the permanency of knowledge; but this is impossible, for memory always exists in the soul. The above commonplace is common also to accident; for it makes no difference whether we say that permanency is the genus of memory or call it accidental to it; for, if memory is in any way the permanency of knowledge, the same argument about it will be applicable.

V. Again, you must see whether your opponent has placed a 'state' in the genus of 'activity' or an 'activity' in the genus of 'state,' for example, calling 'sensation' 'movement through the body'; for sensation is a 'state' while movement is an 'activity.' Likewise, too, if he has made 'memory' and 'state' and

*Some common errors in predication:*

(a) Confusion of 'state' and 'activity' and 'state' and 'capacity.'

125 b ἔξιν καθεκτικὴν ὑπολήψεως εἶπεν· οὐδεμία γὰρ μνήμη ἔξις, ἀλλὰ μᾶλλον ἐνέργεια.

20 Διαμαρτάνουσι δὲ καὶ οἱ τὴν ἔξιν εἰς τὴν ἀκολουθοῦσαν δύναμιν τάττοντες, οἷον τὴν πραότητα ἐγκράτειαν ὀργῆς καὶ τὴν ἀνδρίαν καὶ τὴν δικαιοσύνην φόβων καὶ κερδῶν· ἀνδρείος μὲν γὰρ καὶ πρᾶος ὁ ἀπαθὴς λέγεται, ἐγκρατὴς δ' ὁ πάσχων καὶ μὴ ἀγόμενος. ἴσως μὲν οὖν ἀκολουθεῖ δύναμις  
25 ἐκατέρῳ τοιαύτῃ, ὥστ' εἰ πάθοι, μὴ ἄγεσθαι ἀλλὰ κρατεῖν· οὐ μὴν τοῦτό γ' ἐστὶ τῷ μὲν ἀνδρείῳ τῷ δὲ πρᾶῳ εἶναι, ἀλλὰ τὸ ὅλως μὴ πάσχειν ὑπὸ τῶν τοιούτων μηδέν.

Ἐνίστε δὲ καὶ τὸ παρακολουθοῦν ὅπως οὖν ὡς γένος τιθέασιν, οἷον τὴν λύπην τῆς ὀργῆς καὶ τὴν  
30 ὑπόληψιν τῆς πίστεως. ἄμφω γὰρ τὰ εἰρημένα παρακολουθεῖ μὲν τρόπον τινὰ τοῖς ἀποδοθεῖσιν εἶδεσιν, οὐδέτερον δ' αὐτῶν γένος ἐστίν· ὁ μὲν γὰρ ὀργιζόμενος λυπεῖται προτέρας ἐν αὐτῷ τῆς λύπης γενομένης· οὐ γὰρ ἡ ὀργὴ τῆς λύπης, ἀλλ' ἡ λύπη τῆς ὀργῆς αἰτία, ὥσθ' ἀπλῶς ἡ ὀργὴ οὐκ  
35 ἐστὶ λύπη. κατὰ ταῦτα δ' οὐδ' ἡ πίστις ὑπόληψις· ἐνδέχεται γὰρ τὴν αὐτὴν ὑπόληψιν καὶ μὴ πιστεύοντα ἔχειν· οὐκ ἐνδέχεται δ', εἴπερ εἶδος ἡ πίστις ὑπολήψεως· οὐ γὰρ ἐνδέχεται τὸ αὐτὸ ἔτι διαμένειν, ἄνπερ ἐκ τοῦ εἶδους ὅλως μεταβάλῃ, καθάπερ οὐδὲ τὸ αὐτὸ ζῶον ὅτε μὲν ἀνθρωπον  
40 εἶναι ὅτε δὲ μή. ἂν δέ τις φῇ ἐξ ἀνάγκης τὸν  
126 a ὑπολαμβάνοντα καὶ πιστεύειν, ἐπ' ἴσον ἢ ὑπό-  
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## TOPICA, IV. v

‘ a state which can retain a conception ’ ; for memory is never a ‘ state ’ but rather an ‘ activity.’

They also err who range a ‘ state ’ in the ‘ capacity ’ which accompanies it, for example, making ‘ mildness ’ ‘ the controlling of anger,’ and ‘ courage ’ and ‘ justice ’ ‘ the controlling of fears ’ and of ‘ gains ’ respectively ; for ‘ courageous ’ and ‘ mild ’ are used of one who is free from passion, whereas a ‘ self-controlled ’ man is one who is subject to passion but is not carried away by it. Now, perhaps each of the former is attended by a capacity of such a kind that, if he is subjected to a passion, he is not carried away by it but can control it ; this, however, is not to be ‘ courageous ’ in the one case and ‘ mild ’ in the other, but to be absolutely free from any such passion.

Sometimes also, people put down as genus that which is in any manner attendant on the species, making, for example, ‘ pain ’ the genus of ‘ anger ’ and ‘ conception ’ the genus of ‘ belief ’ ; for both in a sense are attendant on the species assigned, but neither of them is its genus. For when the angry man is pained, the pain has been produced in him before he is angry ; for the anger is not the cause of the pain but the pain of the anger ; so that anger simply is not pain. On this principle neither is belief conception ; for it is possible to have the same conception even without believing in it, whereas this is impossible if belief is a species of conception. For it is impossible for a thing still to remain the same if it is entirely removed from its species, just as neither can the same animal be a man at one time and not at another. But if anyone asserts that the man who has a conception must necessarily also believe in it, then conception and belief will be used

(b) Mistaken assumption that what is consequent upon species is genus.

ληψις καὶ ἡ πίστις ῥηθήσεται, ὥστ' οὐδ' ἂν οὕτως εἴη γένος· ἐπὶ πλεόν γὰρ δεῖ λέγεσθαι τὸ γένος.

Ὅρᾱν δὲ καὶ εἰ ἔν τινι τῷ αὐτῷ πέφυκεν ἄμφω γίνεσθαι· ἐν ᾧ γὰρ τὸ εἶδος, καὶ τὸ γένος, οἶον  
 5 ἐν ᾧ τὸ λευκόν, καὶ τὸ χρῶμα, καὶ ἐν ᾧ γραμματική, καὶ ἐπιστήμη. εἰς οὖν τις τὴν αἰσχύνην φόβον εἴπη ἢ τὴν ὀργὴν λύπην, οὐ συμβήσεται ἐν τῷ αὐτῷ τὸ εἶδος καὶ τὸ γένος ὑπάρχειν· ἡ μὲν γὰρ αἰσχύνη ἐν τῷ λογιστικῷ, ὁ δὲ φόβος ἐν τῷ θυμοειδεῖ, καὶ ἡ μὲν λύπη ἐν τῷ ἐπιθυμητικῷ  
 10 (ἐν τούτῳ γὰρ καὶ ἡ ἡδονή), ἡ δὲ ὀργὴ ἐν τῷ θυμοειδεῖ, ὥστ' οὐ γένη τὰ ἀποδοθέντα, ἐπειδὴ οὐκ ἐν τῷ αὐτῷ τοῖς εἶδεσι πέφυκε γίνεσθαι. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ εἰ ἡ φιλία ἐν τῷ ἐπιθυμητικῷ, οὐκ ἂν εἴη βούλησις τις· πᾶσα γὰρ βούλησις ἐν τῷ λογιστικῷ. χρήσιμος δ' ὁ τόπος καὶ πρὸς τὸ  
 15 συμβεβηκός· ἐν τῷ αὐτῷ γὰρ τὸ συμβεβηκός καὶ ᾧ συμβέβηκεν, ὥστ' ἂν μὴ ἐν τῷ αὐτῷ φαίνεται, δῆλον ὅτι οὐ συμβέβηκεν.

Πάλιν εἰ κατὰ τι τὸ εἶδος τοῦ εἰρημένου γένους μετέχει· οὐ δοκεῖ γὰρ κατὰ τι μετέχεσθαι τὸ γένος· οὐ γάρ ἐστιν ὁ ἄνθρωπος κατὰ τι ζῶον, οὐδ' ἡ  
 20 γραμματικὴ κατὰ τι ἐπιστήμη· ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων. σκοπεῖν οὖν εἰ ἐπὶ τινῶν κατὰ τι μετέχεται τὸ γένος, οἶον εἰ τὸ ζῶον ὅπερ αἰσθητὸν  
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## TOPICA, IV. v

to cover the same ground, so that not even so could the one be the genus of the other, since the genus must cover a wider field of predication.

You must also see whether it is the nature of both to come into being in some one and the same thing ; for where the species is, there also is the genus ; for example, where there is 'whiteness,' there is also 'colour,' and, where there is the 'science of grammar,' there is also 'knowledge.' If, therefore, anyone says that 'shame' is 'fear' or that 'anger' is 'pain,' the result will be that the species and the genus do not exist in the same thing ; for shame exists in the 'reasoning' faculty of the soul, fear in the 'spirited' faculty, and 'pain' in the 'appetitive' faculty (for pleasure is also in this), anger in the 'spirited' faculty, so that the terms assigned are not genera, since it is not their nature to come into being in the same thing as the species. Similarly, too, if 'friendship' is in the 'appetitive' faculty, it cannot be a kind of 'wish' ; for a 'wish' is always in the 'reasoning' faculty. This commonplace is also useful in dealing with the accident ; for the accident and that of which it is an accident are both in the same thing, so that, if they do not appear in the same thing, it is obviously not a case of accident.

(c) Erroneous assumption of things which fall under different faculties as genus and species.

Again, you must see whether the species partakes only partially of the genus assigned ; for it is generally held that genus is not partially imparted ; for a man is not merely partially an animal nor is the science of grammar partially knowledge, and so likewise in the other instances. You must examine, therefore, whether in some cases the genus is only partially imparted, for example, if 'animal' has been described as an 'object of sensation' or an 'object

(d) Error of making the species partake only partially of the genus.

126 a

ἢ ὁρατὸν εἶρηται. κατὰ τι γὰρ αἰσθητὸν ἢ ὁρατὸν  
 τὸ ζῶον· κατὰ τὸ σῶμα γὰρ αἰσθητὸν καὶ ὁρατόν,  
 κατὰ δὲ τὴν ψυχὴν οὐ, ὥστ' οὐκ ἂν εἴη γένος τὸ  
 25 ὁρατὸν καὶ τὸ αἰσθητὸν τοῦ ζῴου.

Λανθάνουσι δ' ἐνίοτε καὶ τὸ ὅλον εἰς τὸ μέρος  
 τιθέντες, οἷον τὸ ζῶον σῶμα ἔμψυχον. οὐδαμῶς  
 δὲ τὸ μέρος τοῦ ὅλου κατηγορεῖται, ὥστ' οὐκ ἂν  
 εἴη τὸ σῶμα γένος τοῦ ζῴου, ἐπειδὴ μέρος ἐστίν.

30 'Ορᾶν δὲ καὶ εἴ τι τῶν ψεκτῶν ἢ φευκτῶν εἰς  
 δύναμιν ἢ τὸ δυνατόν ἔθηκεν, οἷον τὸν σοφιστὴν  
 ἢ διάβολον ἢ κλέπτην τὸν δυνάμενον λάθρα ἀλλότρια  
 κλέπτειν.<sup>1</sup> οὐδεὶς γὰρ τῶν εἰρημένων τῷ δυνατός  
 εἶναι τι τούτων τοιοῦτος λέγεται· δύναται μὲν

35 γὰρ καὶ ὁ θεὸς καὶ ὁ σπουδαῖος τὰ φαῦλα δρᾶν,  
 ἀλλ' οὐκ εἰσὶ τοιοῦτοι· πάντες γὰρ οἱ φαῦλοι κατὰ  
 προαίρεσιν λέγονται. ἔτι πᾶσα δύναμις τῶν  
 αἰρετῶν· καὶ γὰρ αἱ τῶν φαύλων δυνάμεις αἰρεταί,  
 διὸ καὶ τὸν θεὸν καὶ τὸν σπουδαῖον ἔχειν φαμὲν  
 αὐτάς· δυνατοὺς γὰρ εἶναι τὰ φαῦλα πράσσειν.

126 b ὥστ' οὐδενὸς ἂν εἴη ψεκτοῦ γένος ἢ δύναμις. εἰ  
 δὲ μή, συμβήσεται τῶν ψεκτῶν τι αἰρετὸν εἶναι·  
 ἔσται γάρ τις δύναμις ψεκτή.

Καὶ εἴ τι τῶν δι' αὐτὸ τιμίῳ ἢ αἰρετῶν εἰς  
 5 δύναμιν ἢ τὸ δυνατόν ἢ τὸ ποιητικὸν ἔθηκεν· πᾶσα

<sup>1</sup> Reading with AB δυνάμενον λάθρα ἀλλότρια κλέπτειν.



## TOPICA, IV. v

of sight.' For an animal is only in part an object of sensation or of sight ; for it is an object of sensation and sight as regards its body but not as regards its soul ; so that 'object of sight' and 'object of sensation' cannot be the genus of 'animal.'

Sometimes too people unobservedly put the whole within the part, describing, for example, 'animal' as 'animated body.' But the part is not in any way predicable of the whole, so that 'body' cannot be the genus of 'animal,' for it is a part only.

(e) Error of taking part of the species as genus.

You must also see whether your opponent has put anything blameworthy or to be avoided in the category of 'capacity' or 'capable,' for example, in his definition of a sophist or a slanderer, or a thief whom he describes as capable of secretly stealing the good of others. For none of the above is described by his particular name because he is 'capable' in one of these respects ; for even God and the good man are capable of doing bad deeds, but God and man are not of that character ; for the wicked are always so called because of their deliberate choice of evil. Furthermore, a capacity is always among the things worthy of choice, for even capacities for evil are worthy of choice ; and so we say that God and the good man possess them, for we say that they are capable of doing evil. Therefore capacity cannot be the genus of anything blameworthy ; otherwise the result will be that something blameworthy is an object of choice, for there will be a kind of capacity which is blameworthy.

(f) Error of referring what is blame-worthy to a capacity.

You must also see whether he has placed anything which is in itself valuable or worthy of choice in the category of 'capacity' or 'the capable' or 'the productive.' For every capacity and everything

(g) Placing in the category of capacity what is in itself desirable.

γὰρ δύναμις καὶ πᾶν τὸ δυνατόν ἢ τὸ ποιητικὸν δι' ἄλλο αἰρετόν.

Ἡ εἴ τι τῶν ἐν δύο γένεσιν ἢ πλείοσιν εἰς θάτερον ἔθηκεν. ἔνια γὰρ οὐκ ἔστιν εἰς ἓν γένος θεῖναι, οἷον τὸν φένακα καὶ τὸν διάβολον· οὔτε  
 10 γὰρ ὁ προαιρούμενος ἀδυνατῶν δέ, οὔθ' ὁ δυνάμενος μὴ προαιρούμενος δὲ διάβολος ἢ φέναξ, ἀλλ' ὁ ἄμφω ταῦτα ἔχων. ὥστ' οὐ θετέον εἰς ἓν γένος ἀλλ' εἰς ἀμφοτέρα τὰ εἰρημένα.

Ἐτι ἐνίοτε ἀνάπαλιν τὸ μὲν γένος ὡς διαφορὰν τὴν δὲ διαφορὰν ὡς γένος ἀποδιδόασιν, οἷον τὴν  
 15 ἔκπληξιν ὑπερβολὴν θαυμασιότητος καὶ τὴν πίστιν σφοδρότητα ὑπολήψεως. οὔτε γὰρ ἡ ὑπερβολὴ οὔθ' ἡ σφοδρότης γένος, ἀλλὰ διαφορὰ· δοκεῖ γὰρ ἡ ἔκπληξις θαυμασιότης εἶναι ὑπερβάλλουσα καὶ ἡ πίστις ὑπόληψις σφοδρά, ὥστε γένος ἡ θαυμασιότης καὶ ἡ ὑπόληψις, ἡ δ' ὑπερβολὴ καὶ ἡ σφο-  
 20 δρότης διαφορὰ. ἔτι εἴ τις τὴν ὑπερβολὴν καὶ σφοδρότητα ὡς γένος ἀποδώσει, τὰ ἄψυχα πιστεύσει καὶ ἐκπλαγήσεται. ἡ γὰρ ἐκάστου σφοδρότης καὶ ὑπερβολὴ πάρεστιν ἐκείνῳ οὗ ἔστι σφοδρότης καὶ ὑπερβολή. εἰ οὖν ἡ ἔκπληξις ὑπερβολὴ ἔστι θαυμασιότητος, παρέσται τῇ θαυ-  
 25 μασιότητι ἡ ἔκπληξις, ὥστ' ἡ θαυμασιότης ἐκπλαγήσεται. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἡ πίστις παρέσται τῇ ὑπολήψει, εἴπερ σφοδρότης ὑπολήψεώς ἐστιν, ὥστε ἡ ὑπόληψις πιστεύσει. ἔτι συμβήσεται τῷ  
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## TOPICA, IV. v

capable or productive is worthy of choice for the sake of something else.

Or again, you must see whether he has placed something which falls under two or more genera in one of them only. For there are some things which cannot be placed in one genus only, for example, the 'imposter' and the 'slanderer.' For neither is he who possesses the inclination but not the ability, nor he who possesses the ability but not the inclination, a slanderer or an imposter, but he who has the ability and the inclination. He must, therefore, be placed not in one genus only but in both the above genera.

(h) Placing in only one genus that which falls under several genera.

Moreover, by a process of inversion, people sometimes assign genus as differentia and differentia as genus, calling, for example, 'amazement' an 'excess of astonishment' and 'belief' an 'intensification of opinion.' For 'excess' and 'intensification' are not the genus but the differentia; for amazement is generally regarded as excessive astonishment and belief as intensified opinion, so that astonishment and opinion are the genus, while excess and intensification are the differentia. Further, if excess and intensification are to be assigned as genus, inanimate things will believe and be amazed. For the intensification and excess of any particular thing are present in that of which they are the intensification and excess. If, therefore, amazement is an excess of astonishment, the amazement will be present in the astonishment, so that the astonishment will be amazed. Similarly also the belief will be present in the opinion, since it is the intensification of the opinion; and so the opinion will believe. Further, the result of making an assertion of this kind will

(i) Error of assigning genus as differentia and vice versa.

οὕτως ἀποδιδόντι σφοδρότητα σφοδρὰν λέγειν καὶ  
 ὑπερβολὴν ὑπερβάλλουσιν. ἔστι γὰρ πίστις σφο-  
 30 δρά· εἰ οὖν ἡ πίστις σφοδρότης ἐστί, σφοδρότης  
 ἂν εἴη σφοδρά. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἑκπληξίς ἐστιν  
 ὑπερβάλλουσα· εἰ οὖν ἡ ἑκπληξίς ὑπερβολή ἐστιν,  
 ὑπερβολὴ ἂν εἴη ὑπερβάλλουσα. οὐ δοκεῖ δ'  
 οὐδέτερον τούτων, ὥσπερ οὐδ' ἐπιστήμη ἐπιστήμον<sup>1</sup>  
 οὐδὲ κίνησις κινούμενον.

Ἐνίοτε δὲ διαμαρτάνουσι καὶ τὸ πάθος εἰς γένος  
 35 τὸ πεπονθὸς τιθέντες, οἷον ὅσοι τὴν ἀθανασίαν  
 ζωὴν αἰδιόον φασιν εἶναι· πάθος γάρ τι ζωῆς ἢ  
 σύμπτωμα ἢ ἀθανασία ἔοικεν εἶναι. ὅτι δ' ἀληθὲς  
 τὸ λεγόμενον, δηλὸν ἂν γένοιτο, εἴ τις συγχωρήσειεν  
 ἐκ θνητοῦ τινὰ ἀθάνατον γίνεσθαι· οὐδεὶς γὰρ φήσει  
 ἑτέραν αὐτὸν ζωὴν λαμβάνειν, ἀλλὰ σύμπτωμά τι  
 127 a ἢ πάθος αὐτῇ ταύτῃ παραγενέσθαι. ὥστ' οὐ γένος  
 ἢ ζωὴ τῆς ἀθανασίας.

Πάλιν εἰ τοῦ πάθους, οὐ ἐστὶ πάθος, ἐκείνο γένος  
 φασὶν εἶναι, οἷον τὸ πνεῦμα αἶρα κινούμενον.  
 5 μᾶλλον γὰρ κίνησις αἶρος τὸ πνεῦμα· ὁ γὰρ αὐτὸς  
 ἀῆρ διαμένει, ὅταν τε κινῆται καὶ ὅταν μένη. ὥστ'  
 οὐκ ἔστιν ὅλως ἀῆρ τὸ πνεῦμα· ἦν γὰρ ἂν καὶ  
 μὴ κινουμένου τοῦ αἶρος πνεῦμα, εἴπερ ὁ αὐτὸς  
 ἀῆρ διαμένει ὥσπερ ἦν πνεῦμα. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ  
 ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων τῶν τοιούτων. εἰ δ' ἄρα καὶ ἐπὶ  
 10 τούτου δεῖ συγχωρῆσαι ὅτι ἀῆρ ἐστὶ κινούμενος  
 τὸ πνεῦμα, ἀλλ' οὐτι κατὰ πάντων τὸ τοιούτον  
 ἀποδεκτέον καθ' ὧν μὴ ἀληθεύεται τὸ γένος, ἀλλ'  
 ἐφ' ὅσων ἀληθῶς κατηγορεῖται τὸ ἀποδοθὲν γένος.  
 ἐπ' ἐνίων γὰρ οὐ δοκεῖ ἀληθεύεσθαι, οἷον ἐπὶ τοῦ

<sup>1</sup> Reading ἐπιστήμον with C.



## TOPICA, IV. v

be to call intensification intensified and excess excessive. For belief is intensified ; if, therefore, belief is intensification, intensification would be intensified. Similarly, too, amazement is excessive ; if, therefore, amazement is excess, excess would be excessive. But neither of these things accords with current belief any more than that knowledge is a knowing thing or motion a moving thing.

Sometimes too, people err in placing an affection in that which has been affected, as its genus, for example, those who say that immortality is everlasting life ; for immortality seems to be an affection or accidental property of life. That this description is true would be clearly seen if one were to concede that a man can become immortal after having been mortal ; for no one will say that he is taking on another life, but that an accidental property or affection is added to life as it is. Life, therefore, is not the genus of immortality.

Again, you must see whether they are asserting that the genus of an affection is that of which it is an affection, for example, when they say that the wind is ' air in motion.' For wind is rather ' motion of air,' for the same air remains both when it is in motion and when it is at rest. And so wind is not air at all ; otherwise there would be wind even when the air was not in motion, since the same air which was wind still remains. Similarly, too, in the other cases of this kind. But if after all we must in this case concede that the wind is air in motion, yet we ought not to accept such a statement with regard to everything of which the genus is not truly asserted but only where the genus assigned is truly predicated. For in some cases, for example ' mud'

(j) Error of making the thing affected the genus of the affection.

(k) Error of making the object affected the genus of the affection.

127 a

πηλοῦ καὶ τῆς χιόνος. τὴν μὲν γὰρ χιόνα φασὶν  
 15 ὕδωρ εἶναι πεπηγός, τὸν δὲ πηλὸν γῆν ὑγρῷ  
 πεφυραμένην· ἔστι δ' οὐθ' ἢ χιὼν ὕδωρ οὐθ' ὁ  
 πηλὸς γῆ, ὥστ' οὐκ ἂν εἴη γένος οὐδέτερον τῶν  
 ἀποδοθέντων· δεῖ γὰρ τὸ γένος ἀληθεύεσθαι αἰεὶ  
 κατὰ τῶν εἰδῶν. ὁμοίως δ' οὐδ' ὁ οἶνός ἐστιν  
 ὕδωρ σεσηπός, καθάπερ Ἐμπεδοκλῆς φησὶ σαπὲν  
 ἐν ξύλῳ ὕδωρ· ἀπλῶς γὰρ οὐκ ἔστιν ὕδωρ.

20 VI. Ἐτι εἰ ὅλως τὸ ἀποδοθὲν μηδενός ἐστι  
 γένος· δῆλον γὰρ ὡς οὐδὲ τοῦ λεχθέντος. σκοπεῖν  
 δ' ἐκ τοῦ μηδὲν διαφέρειν εἶδει τὰ μετέχοντα τοῦ  
 ἀποδοθέντος γένους, οἶον τὰ λευκά· οὐδὲν γὰρ  
 διαφέρει τῷ εἶδει ταῦτ' ἀλλήλων. παντὸς δὲ  
 γένους ἐστὶ τὰ εἶδη διάφορα, ὥστ' οὐκ ἂν εἴη τὸ  
 25 λευκὸν γένος οὐδενός.

Πάλιν εἰ τὸ πᾶσιν ἀκολουθοῦν γένος ἢ διαφορὰν  
 εἶπεν. πλείω γὰρ τὰ πᾶσιν ἐπόμενα, οἶον τὸ  
 ὄν καὶ τὸ ἐν τῶν πᾶσιν ἐπομένων ἐστίν· εἰ οὖν  
 τὸ ὄν γένος ἀπέδωκε, δῆλον ὅτι πάντων ἂν εἴη  
 30 γένος, ἐπειδὴ κατηγορεῖται αὐτῶν· κατ' οὐδενός  
 γὰρ τὸ γένος ἀλλ' ἢ κατὰ τῶν εἰδῶν κατηγορεῖται.  
 ὥστε καὶ τὸ ἐν εἶδος ἂν εἴη τοῦ ὄντος. συμβαίνει  
 οὖν κατὰ πάντων, ὧν τὸ γένος κατηγορεῖται, καὶ  
 τὸ εἶδος κατηγορεῖσθαι, ἐπειδὴ τὸ ὄν καὶ τὸ ἐν

and 'snow,' it does not seem to be truly asserted. For they describes now as 'congealed water,' and mud as 'earth mingled with moisture'; but neither is snow water nor mud earth, so that neither of the terms assigned could be the genus; for the genus must always be truly asserted of every species. Similarly, neither is wine 'putrefied water,' as Empedocles speaks of 'water putrefied in wood'<sup>a</sup>; for it simply is not water at all.

VI. Furthermore, you must see whether the term assigned is not the genus of anything at all; for then obviously it is not the genus of the species named. You must make your examination on the basis of an absence of any difference in species between the things which partake of the genus assigned, for example, white objects; for these do not differ at all from one another specifically, whereas the species of a genus are always different from one another; so that 'white' could not be the genus of anything.

Again, you must see whether your opponent has asserted that some attribute which accompanies everything is genus or differentia. For there are several attributes which accompany everything; 'being,' for example, and 'oneness' are among the attributes which accompany everything. If, then, he has assigned 'being' as a genus, obviously it would be the genus of everything, since it is predicated of everything; for the genus is not predicated of anything except its species. Hence 'oneness' too would be a species of 'being.' It results, therefore, that the species also is predicated of everything of which the genus is predicated, since 'being' and 'oneness' are predicated of absolutely everything,

*Various Rules:*  
(a) The proposed genus must contain subject species.

(b) An attribute which is universally present cannot be taken as genus or differentia.

127 a

κατὰ πάντων ἀπλῶς κατηγορεῖται, δέον ἐπ' ἑλατ-  
 35 τον τὸ εἶδος κατηγορεῖσθαι. εἰ δὲ τὸ πᾶσιν  
 ἐπόμενον διαφορὰν εἶπε, δῆλον ὅτι ἐπ' ἴσον ἢ ἐπὶ  
 πλεόν ἢ διαφορὰ τοῦ γένους ῥηθήσεται. εἰ μὲν  
 γὰρ καὶ τὸ γένος τῶν πᾶσιν ἐπομένων, ἐπ' ἴσον,  
 εἰ δὲ μὴ πᾶσιν ἔπεται τὸ γένος, ἐπὶ πλεόν ἢ  
 διαφορὰ λέγοιτ' ἂν αὐτοῦ.

127 b

Ἔτι εἰ ἐν ὑποκειμένῳ τῷ εἶδει τὸ ἀποδοθὲν  
 γένος λέγεται, καθάπερ τὸ λευκὸν ἐπὶ τῆς χιόνος,  
 ὥστε δῆλον ὅτι οὐκ ἂν εἴη γένος· καθ' ὑποκειμένου  
 γὰρ τοῦ εἶδους μόνον τὸ γένος λέγεται.

5 Σκοπεῖν δὲ καὶ εἰ μὴ συνωνύμων τὸ γένος τῷ  
 εἶδει· κατὰ πάντων γὰρ τῶν εἰδῶν συνωνύμως τὸ  
 γένος κατηγορεῖται.

Ἔτι ὅταν ὄντος καὶ τῷ εἶδει καὶ τῷ γένει  
 ἐναντίου τὸ βέλτιον τῶν ἐναντίων εἰς τὸ χεῖρον  
 10 γένος θῇ· συμβήσεται γὰρ τὸ λοιπὸν ἐν τῷ λοιπῷ  
 εἶναι, ἐπειδὴ τὰναντία ἐν τοῖς ἐναντίοις γένεσιν,  
 ὥστε τὸ βέλτιον ἐν τῷ χείρονι ἔσται καὶ τὸ χεῖρον  
 ἐν τῷ βελτίονι· δοκεῖ δὲ τοῦ βελτίονος καὶ τὸ  
 γένος βέλτιον εἶναι. καὶ εἰ τοῦ αὐτοῦ εἶδους  
 ὁμοίως πρὸς ἄμφω ἔχοντος εἰς τὸ χεῖρον καὶ μὴ  
 15 εἰς τὸ βέλτιον γένος ἔθηκεν, οἷον τὴν ψυχὴν ὅπερ  
 κίνησιν ἢ κινούμενον. ὁμοίως γὰρ ἢ αὕτη στατική



whereas the species ought to be less widely predicated. If, however, he has asserted that the attribute which accompanies everything is a differentia, it is obvious that the differentia will be predicated to an extent equal to, or greater than, the genus. For if the genus also is one of the attributes which accompany everything, the differentia would be predicated to an equal extent, but, if the genus does not accompany everything, to a greater extent than the genus.

Furthermore, you must see whether the genus assigned is said to be inherent in the subject species as 'white' is in the case of snow, so that it is obvious that it cannot be the genus; for the genus is only predicated of the subject species.

You must also see whether the genus is not synonymous with the species; for the genus is always predicated of the species synonymously.

Further, there is the case when, both the species and the genus having a contrary, your opponent places the better of the contrary species in the worse genus; for this will result in the other species being placed in the other genus, since contraries are found in contrary genera, so that the better species will be found in the worse genus and the worse species in the better genus, whereas it is generally held that the genus of the better species is also better. You must also see whether, when the same species is similarly related to both, your opponent has placed it in the worse and not in the better genus, saying, for example, that the 'soul' is 'a kind of motion' or 'a moving thing.' For the same soul is generally regarded as being in like manner a principle of rest and a principle of motion;

(c) The genus cannot be inherent in the subject species.

(d) The genus and the species are predicated synonymously.

(e) The better of two contraries must not be assigned to the worse genus.

127 b

καὶ κινητικὴ δοκεῖ εἶναι, ὥστ' εἰ βέλτιον ἢ στάσις,  
εἰς τοῦτο ἔδει τὸ γένος θεῖναι.

Ἔτι ἐκ τοῦ μᾶλλον καὶ ἥττον, ἀνασκευάζοντι  
μέν, εἰ τὸ γένος δέχεται τὸ μᾶλλον, τὸ δ' εἶδος  
20 μὴ δέχεται μήτ' αὐτὸ μήτε τὸ κατ' ἐκείνο λεγόμενον.  
οἷον εἰ ἡ ἀρετὴ δέχεται τὸ μᾶλλον, καὶ ἡ  
δικαιοσύνη καὶ ὁ δίκαιος· λέγεται γὰρ δικαιότερος  
ἕτερος ἑτέρου. εἰ οὖν τὸ μὲν ἀποδοθὲν γένος τὸ  
μᾶλλον δέχεται, τὸ δ' εἶδος μὴ δέχεται μήτ' αὐτὸ  
μήτε τὸ κατ' ἐκείνο λεγόμενον, οὐκ ἂν εἴη γένος  
25 τὸ ἀποδοθὲν.

Πάλιν εἰ τὸ μᾶλλον δοκοῦν ἢ ὁμοίως μὴ ἐστὶ  
γένος, δῆλον ὅτι οὐδὲ τὸ ἀποδοθὲν. χρήσιμος δ'  
ὁ τόπος ἐπὶ τῶν τοιούτων μάλιστα ἐφ' ὧν πλείω  
φαίνεται τοῦ εἶδους ἐν τῷ τί ἐστὶ κατηγορούμενα,  
30 καὶ μὴ διώριστα, μηδ' ἔχομεν εἰπεῖν ποῖον αὐτῶν  
γένος, οἷον τῆς ὀργῆς καὶ ἡ λύπη καὶ ἡ ὑπόληψις  
ὀλιγωρίας ἐν τῷ τί ἐστὶ κατηγορεῖσθαι δοκεῖ.  
λυπεῖται τε γὰρ ὁ ὀργιζόμενος καὶ ὑπολαμβάνει  
ὀλιγωρεῖσθαι. ἡ αὐτὴ δὲ σκέψις καὶ ἐπὶ τοῦ εἶδους  
πρὸς ἄλλο τι συγκρίνοντι· εἰ γὰρ τὸ μᾶλλον ἢ τὸ  
35 ὁμοίως δοκοῦν εἶναι ἐν τῷ ἀποδοθέντι γένει μὴ  
ἐστὶν ἐν τῷ γένει, δῆλον ὅτι οὐδὲ τὸ ἀποδοθὲν εἶδος  
εἴη ἂν ἐν τῷ γένει.

Ἀναιροῦντι μὲν οὖν καθάπερ εἴρηται χρηστέον·  
κατασκευάζοντι δέ, εἰ μὲν ἐπιδέχεται τὸ μᾶλλον  
128 a τό τε ἀποδοθὲν γένος καὶ τὸ εἶδος, οὐ χρήσιμος

so that, if rest is better, it ought to have been placed in this as its genus.

Further, you must argue from the greater and less degrees. For destructive criticism, you should see whether the genus admits of the greater degree, while neither the species itself nor anything which is named after it does so. For example, if virtue admits of the greater degree, 'justice' and 'the just man' do so also; for one man is called 'more just' than another. If, therefore, the genus assigned admits of the greater degree but neither the species itself nor anything which is named after it admits of it, the term assigned cannot be the genus.

(f) Arguments from the greater or less and equal degrees.  
(1) In destructive criticism.

Again, if what is more generally or equally generally held to be the genus is not the genus, obviously neither is the term assigned the genus. This commonplace is useful especially when several things are clearly predicable of the species in the category of essence and no distinction has been made between them and we cannot say which of them is genus. For example, both 'pain' and the 'conception of contempt' are generally regarded as predicates of 'anger' in the category of essence; for the angry man both feels pain and conceives that he is contemned. The same inquiry is also applicable in the case of the species by means of a comparison with some other species; for, if what is more generally or equally generally held to be in the assigned genus is not present in the genus, obviously neither could the species assigned be present in the genus.

In destructive criticism, then, the above method should be employed; but for constructive purposes the commonplace of seeing whether both the assigned genus and the species admit of the greater

(2) In constructive argument.

ὁ τόπος· οὐδέν γὰρ κωλύει ἀμφοτέρων ἐπιδεχο-  
 μένων μὴ εἶναι θάτερον θατέρου γένος. τό τε  
 γὰρ καλὸν καὶ τὸ λευκὸν ἐπιδέχεται τὸ μᾶλλον,  
 καὶ οὐδέτερον οὐδετέρου γένος. ἡ δὲ τῶν γενῶν  
 5 καὶ τῶν εἰδῶν πρὸς ἄλληλα σύγκρισις χρήσιμος,  
 οἷον εἰ ὁμοίως τόδε καὶ τόδε γένος, εἰ θάτερον  
 γένος, καὶ θάτερον. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ εἰ τὸ ἦττον  
 καὶ τὸ μᾶλλον, οἷον εἰ τῆς ἐγκρατείας μᾶλλον ἢ  
 δύναμις ἢ ἡ ἀρετὴ γένος, ἢ δ' ἀρετὴ γένος, καὶ  
 ἢ δύναμις. τὰ δ' αὐτὰ καὶ ἐπὶ τοῦ εἴδους ἀρμόσει  
 10 λέγεσθαι. εἰ γὰρ ὁμοίως τόδε καὶ τόδε τοῦ προ-  
 κειμένου εἶδος, εἰ θάτερον εἶδος, καὶ τὸ λοιπόν·  
 καὶ εἰ τὸ ἦττον δοκοῦν εἶδος ἐστὶ, καὶ τὸ μᾶλλον.

Ἐπὶ πρὸς τὸ κατασκευάζειν σκεπτέον εἰ καθ'  
 ὧν ἀπεδόθη τὸ γένος, ἐν τῷ τί ἐστὶ κατηγορεῖται,  
 15 μὴ ὄντος ἐνὸς τοῦ ἀποδοθέντος εἴδους, ἀλλὰ  
 πλειόνων καὶ διαφόρων· δηλὸν γὰρ ὅτι γένος ἔσται.  
 εἰ δ' ἐν τῷ ἀποδοθέν εἶδος ἐστὶ, σκοπεῖν εἰ καὶ  
 κατ' ἄλλων εἰδῶν τὸ γένος ἐν τῷ τί ἐστὶ κατη-  
 γορεῖται· πάλιν γὰρ συμβήσεται κατὰ πλειόνων  
 καὶ διαφόρων αὐτὸ κατηγορεῖσθαι.

20 Ἐπεὶ δὲ δοκεῖ τισὶ καὶ ἡ διαφορὰ ἐν τῷ τί ἐστὶ  
 τῶν εἰδῶν κατηγορεῖσθαι, χωριστέον τὸ γένος



degree is of no use ; for, even though they both admit of it, there is nothing to prevent one not being the genus of the other. For both ' beautiful ' and ' white ' admit of the greater degree, and neither is the genus of the other. The comparison, however, of the genera and the species with one another is useful ; for example, if A and B have equal claim to be regarded as genera, then, if one is a genus, so also is the other. Similarly, too, if the less degree is a genus, so also is the greater degree ; for example, if ' capacity ' has more claim than ' virtue ' to be considered the genus of ' self control,' and ' virtue ' is the genus, so also is ' capacity.' The same considerations will be suitably applied also to the species. For if A and B have equal claim to be regarded as species of the proposed genus, then, if one is a species, so also is the other ; also, if that which is less generally held to be a species, is a species, so also is that which is more generally held to be so.

Further, for constructive purposes, you must examine whether the genus has been predicated in the category of essence of those things to which it has been assigned, in the case where the species assigned is not a single species but there are several different species ; for then it will obviously be the genus. If, however, the species assigned is a single species, you must examine whether the genus is predicated in the category of essence of other species also ; for then, again, the result will be that it is predicated of several different species.

Since some people hold that the differentia also is predicated of the species in the category of essence, the genus must be distinguished from the

(g) The genus must be predicated in the category of essence.

(h) Method of distinguishing genus and differentia

ἀπὸ τῆς διαφορᾶς χρώμενον τοῖς εἰρημένοις  
στοιχείοις, πρῶτον μὲν ὅτι τὸ γένος ἐπὶ πλεόν  
λέγεται τῆς διαφορᾶς· εἰθ' ὅτι κατὰ τὴν τοῦ τί  
ἐστὶν ἀπόδοσιν μᾶλλον ἀρμόττει τὸ γένος ἢ τὴν  
25 διαφορὰν εἰπεῖν· ὁ γὰρ ζῶον εἶπας τὸν ἄνθρωπον  
μᾶλλον δηλοῖ τί ἐστὶν ὁ ἄνθρωπος ἢ ὁ πεζόν· καὶ  
ὅτι ἡ μὲν διαφορὰ ποιότητα τοῦ γένους ἀεὶ ση-  
μαίνει, τὸ δὲ γένος τῆς διαφορᾶς οὐ· ὁ μὲν γὰρ  
εἶπας πεζὸν ποιόν τι ζῶον λέγει, ὁ δὲ ζῶον εἶπας  
οὐ λέγει ποιόν τι πεζόν.

30 Τὴν μὲν οὖν διαφορὰν ἀπὸ τοῦ γένους οὕτω  
χωριστέον. ἐπεὶ δὲ δοκεῖ <εἰ><sup>1</sup> τὸ μουσικόν, ἢ  
μουσικόν ἐστίν, ἐπιστήμὸν τί ἐστι<sup>2</sup> καὶ ἡ μουσικὴ  
ἐπιστήμη τις εἶναι, καὶ εἰ τὸ βαδίζον τῷ βαδίζειν  
κινεῖται, ἢ βάδις κίνησις τις εἶναι, σκοπεῖν ἐν  
ᾧ ἂν γένει βούλῃ τι κατασκευάσαι, τὸν εἰρημένον  
35 τρόπον, οἷον εἰ τὴν ἐπιστήμην ὅπερ πίστιν, εἰ ὁ  
ἐπιστάμενος ἢ ἐπίσταται πιστεύει· δῆλον γὰρ ὅτι  
ἡ ἐπιστήμη πίστις ἂν τις εἴη. τὸν αὐτὸν δὲ τρόπον  
καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων τῶν τοιούτων.

Ἔτι ἐπεὶ τὸ παρεπόμενόν τινι ἀεὶ καὶ μὴ ἀντι-  
στρέφον χαλεπὸν χωρίσαι τοῦ μὴ γένος εἶναι, ἂν  
128 b τὸδε μὲν τῷδ' ἐπῆται παντί, τὸδε δὲ τῷδε μὴ  
παντί, οἷον τῇ νηνεμία ἢ ἡρεμία καὶ τῷ ἀριθμῷ

<sup>1</sup> εἰ add. Imelmann.

<sup>2</sup> Reading τί ἐστι for τι εἶναι with Imelmann.

differentia by the use of the elementary principles already mentioned, namely, (1) that the genus is more widely predicated than the differentia ; (2) that, in assigning the essence, it is more appropriate to state the genus than the differentia ; for he who describes ' man ' as an ' animal ' indicates his essence better than he who describes him as ' pedestrian ' ; and (3) that the differentia always indicates a quality of the genus, whereas the genus does not describe a quality of the differentia ; for he who uses the term ' pedestrian ' describes a certain kind of animal, but he who uses the term ' animal ' does not describe a certain kind of ' pedestrian.'

This, then, is how the differentia must be distinguished from the genus. Now, since it is generally held that, if that which is musical, in as much as it is musical, possesses a certain kind of knowledge, then also ' music ' is a kind of ' knowledge,' and that if that which walks moves by walking, then ' walking ' is a kind of ' motion '—you should examine on the principle described above any genus in which you wish to confirm the presence of something ; for example, if you wish to confirm that ' knowledge ' is a kind of ' belief,' you must see whether the man who knows, in as much as he knows, believes ; for then it is obvious that knowledge would be a kind of belief. And you must use the same method in the other cases of this kind.

Practical  
examples.

Further, since it is difficult to distinguish that which always accompanies a thing and is not convertible with it and to show that it is not its genus—if A always accompanies B whereas B does not always accompany A ; for example, ' rest ' always accompanies ' calm,' and ' divisibility ' accompanies

128 b

τὸ διαιρετόν, ἀνάπαλιν δ' οὐ (τὸ γὰρ διαιρετόν οὐ  
 πᾶν ἀριθμός, οὐδ' ἡ ἡρεμία νηνεμία), αὐτὸν μὲν  
 χρῆσθαι ὡς γένους ὄντος τοῦ αἰεὶ ἀκολουθοῦντος,  
 5 ὅταν μὴ ἀντιστρέφῃ θάτερον, ἄλλου δὲ προτεί-  
 νοντος μὴ ἐπὶ πάντων ὑπακούειν. ἔνστασις δ'  
 αὐτοῦ ὅτι τὸ μὴ ὄν ἐπεταί παντὶ τῷ γινομένῳ  
 (τὸ γὰρ γινόμενον οὐκ ἔστι) καὶ οὐκ ἀντιστρέφει  
 (οὐ γὰρ πᾶν τὸ μὴ ὄν γίνεται), ἀλλ' ὅμως οὐκ  
 ἔστι γένος τὸ μὴ ὄν τοῦ γινομένου· ἀπλῶς γὰρ  
 οὐκ ἔστι τοῦ μὴ ὄντος εἶδη.

- 10 Περὶ μὲν οὖν τοῦ γένους, καθάπερ εἴρηται,  
 μετιτέον.



'number,' but the converse is not true (for the divisible is not always a number, nor is rest always a calm)—you should yourself deal with the matter on the principle that what always accompanies a thing is the genus whenever the other is not convertible with it; but, when someone else makes the proposition, you should not admit it in every case. To this it may be objected that 'not-being' always accompanies 'that which is coming into being' (for that which is coming into being does not exist) and is not convertible with it (for what does not exist is not always coming into being), but that, nevertheless, 'not-being' is not the genus of 'that which is coming into being,' for 'not-being' has no species at all.

Such, then, are the methods which must be followed in dealing with genus.

# Ε

128 b 14 I. Πότερον δ' ἴδιον ἢ οὐκ ἴδιόν ἐστι τὸ εἰρημένον,  
15 διὰ τῶνδε σκεπτέον.

Ἀποδίδεται δὲ τὸ ἴδιον ἢ καθ' αὐτὸ καὶ αἰὲ ἢ  
πρὸς ἕτερον καὶ ποτέ, οἷον καθ' αὐτὸ μὲν ἀνθρώ-  
που τὸ ζῶον ἡμερον φύσει, πρὸς ἕτερον δὲ οἷον  
ψυχῆς πρὸς σῶμα, ὅτι τὸ μὲν προστακτικὸν τὸ  
δ' ὑπηρετικόν ἐστιν, αἰὲ δὲ οἷον θεοῦ τὸ ζῶον  
20 ἀθάνατον, ποτέ δ' οἷον τοῦ τινὸς ἀνθρώπου τὸ  
περιπατεῖν ἐν τῷ γυμνασίῳ.

Ἔστι δὲ τὸ πρὸς ἕτερον ἴδιον ἀποδιδόμενον ἢ  
δύο προβλήματα ἢ τέτταρα. εἰ μὲν γὰρ τοῦ μὲν  
ἀποδῶ τοῦ δ' ἀρνήσῃται ταῦτο τοῦτο, δύο μόνον  
προβλήματα γίνονται, καθάπερ τὸ ἀνθρώπου πρὸς  
25 ἵππον ἴδιον ὅτι δίπουν ἐστίν. καὶ γὰρ ὅτι ἄνθρωπος  
οὐ δίπουν ἐστὶν ἐπιχειροίη τις ἄν, καὶ ὅτι ὁ ἵππος  
δίπουν ἀμφοτέρως δ' ἂν κινοῖ τὸ ἴδιον. εἰ δ'  
ἐκατέρου ἐκάτερον ἀποδῶ καὶ ἐκατέρου ἀπαρνηθῇ,  
τέτταρα προβλήματα ἔσται, καθάπερ τὸ ἀνθρώπου  
30 ἴδιον πρὸς ἵππον, ὅτι τὸ μὲν δίπουν τὸ δὲ τετρά-  
πουν ἐστίν. καὶ γὰρ ὅτι ἄνθρωπος οὐ δίπουν  
καὶ ὅτι τετράπουν πέφυκεν ἐστὶν ἐπιχειρεῖν, καὶ  
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## BOOK V

I. WHETHER the attribute assigned is a *property* or not must be examined on the following principles :

Property is assigned either *essentially and permanently* or *relatively and temporarily*. For example, it is an essential property of man to be 'by nature a civilized animal.' A relative property may be exemplified by the relation of the soul to the body, namely, that the former gives orders and the latter obeys. An example of a permanent property is that of God as 'an immortal living being,' of a temporary property that of a particular man as 'walking about in a gymnasium.'

(C) OF  
PRO-  
PERTY  
(BOOK V).  
The four  
kinds of  
property.

The assignment of a property relatively produces either two or four problems. If the disputant assigns it to one thing and denies it of another, two problems only arise ; for example, when it is stated as the property of a man in relation to a horse that he is a biped. For someone might argue that man is not a biped and that a horse is a biped ; by both these statements he would seek to remove the property. But if he assigns one of two attributes to each of two things and denies it of the other, there will be four problems ; for example, when he says that the property of a man in relation to a horse is that one is a biped and the other a quadruped. For then it is possible to argue that man is not a biped and that it is his nature to be

διότι ὁ ἵππος δίπουν καὶ διότι οὐ τετράπουν οἶόν τ' ἐπιχειρεῖν. ὅπως δ' οὖν δειχθέντος ἀναιρεῖται τὸ προκείμενον.

Ἔστι δὲ τὸ μὲν καθ' αὐτὸ ἴδιον ὁ πρὸς ἅπαντα  
 35 ἀποδίδεται καὶ παντὸς χωρίζει, καθάπερ ἀνθρώπου τὸ ζῶον θνητὸν ἐπιστήμης δεκτικόν. τὸ δὲ πρὸς ἕτερον ὁ μὴ ἀπὸ παντὸς ἀλλ' ἀπὸ τινος τακτοῦ διορίζει, καθάπερ ἀρετῆς πρὸς ἐπιστήμην, ὅτι τὸ μὲν ἐν πλείοσι, τὸ δ' ἐν λογιστικῷ μόνον καὶ τοῖς ἔχουσι λογιστικὸν πέφυκε γίνεσθαι. τὸ δ' αἰεὶ ὁ  
 129 a κατὰ πάντα χρόνον ἀληθεύεται καὶ μηδέποτε ἀπολείπεται, καθάπερ τοῦ ζώου τὸ ἐκ ψυχῆς καὶ σώματος συγκεείμενον. τὸ δὲ ποτέ ὁ κατὰ τινα χρόνον ἀληθεύεται καὶ μὴ ἐξ ἀνάγκης αἰεὶ παρέπε-  
 5 ται, καθάπερ τοῦ τινὸς ἀνθρώπου τὸ περιπατεῖν ἐν ἀγορᾷ.

Ἔστι δὲ τὸ πρὸς ἄλλο ἴδιον ἀποδοῦναι τὸ διαφορὰν εἰπεῖν ἢ ἐν ἅπασι καὶ αἰεὶ ἢ ὥς ἐπὶ τὸ πολὺ καὶ ἐν τοῖς πλείστοις, οἷον ἐν ἅπασι μὲν καὶ αἰεὶ, καθάπερ τὸ ἀνθρώπου ἴδιον πρὸς ἵππον  
 10 ὅτι δίπουν· ἄνθρωπος μὲν γὰρ καὶ αἰεὶ καὶ πᾶς ἐστὶ δίπους, ἵππος δ' οὐδεὶς ἐστὶ δίπους οὐδέποτε. ὥς ἐπὶ τὸ πολὺ δὲ καὶ ἐν τοῖς πλείστοις, καθάπερ τὸ λογιστικοῦ ἴδιον πρὸς ἐπιθυμητικὸν καὶ θυμικὸν τῷ τὸ μὲν προστάττειν τὸ δ' ὑπηρετεῖν· οὔτε γὰρ  
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## TOPICA, V. 1

a quadruped, and it is also open to him to argue that the horse is a biped and that it is not a quadruped. If he can prove any one of these statements, the proposed attribute is destroyed.

An *essential* property is one which is assigned to something in contrast to everything else and sets a thing apart from everything else, for example, the property of man as 'a mortal living creature receptive of knowledge.' A *relative* property is one which distinguishes a thing not from everything else but from some specified thing; for example, the property of virtue in relation to knowledge is that it is the nature of the former to come into being in a number of faculties, of the latter to come into being in the reasoning faculty only and in creatures possessing that faculty. A *permanent* property is one which is true at all times and never fails; for example, that of a living creature that it is 'composed of soul and body.' A *temporary* property is one which is true at a particular time and is not always a necessary accompaniment, for example, that of a particular man as 'walking about in the market-place.'

To assign a property to something relatively to something else is to assert a difference between them either universally and permanently or usually and in the majority of cases. As an example of a universal and permanent difference we may take the property of man in relation to a horse, that he is a biped; for man is always and in every case a biped, whereas no horse is ever a biped. A difference which is found usually and in most cases is exemplified in the property possessed by the reasoning faculty in relation to the appetitive and spirited faculty, namely, that the former commands while the latter serves; for

129 a

τὸ λογιστικὸν πάντοτε προστάττει, ἀλλ' ἐνίοτε  
καὶ προστάττεται, οὔτε τὸ ἐπιθυμητικὸν καὶ θυ-  
15 μικὸν ἀεὶ προστάττεται, ἀλλὰ καὶ προστάττει  
ποτέ, ὅταν ἢ μοχθηρὰ ἢ ψυχὴ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου.

Τῶν δ' ἰδίων ἐστὶ λογικὰ μάλιστα τὰ τέ καθ'  
αὐτὰ καὶ ἀεὶ καὶ τὰ πρὸς ἕτερον. τὸ μὲν γὰρ πρὸς  
ἕτερον ἴδιον πλείω προβλήματα ἐστὶ, καθάπερ  
20 εἴπομεν καὶ πρότερον· ἢ γὰρ δύο ἢ τέτταρα ἐξ  
ἀνάγκης γίνονται τὰ προβλήματα· πλείους οὖν οἱ  
λόγοι γίνονται πρὸς ταῦτα. τὸ δὲ καθ' αὐτὸ καὶ  
τὸ ἀεὶ πρὸς πολλὰ ἐστὶν ἐπιχειρεῖν ἢ πρὸς πλείους  
χρόνους παρατηρεῖν, τὸ μὲν καθ' αὐτὸ πρὸς πολλὰ·  
πρὸς ἕκαστον γὰρ τῶν ὄντων δεῖ ὑπάρχειν αὐτῷ  
25 τὸ ἴδιον, ὥστ' εἰ μὴ πρὸς ἅπαντα χωρίζεται, οὐκ  
ἂν εἴη καλῶς ἀποδομένον τὸ ἴδιον. τὸ δ' ἀεὶ  
πρὸς πολλοὺς χρόνους τηρεῖν· κἂν γὰρ εἰ μὴ  
ὑπάρχει κἂν εἰ μὴ ὑπῆρξε κἂν εἰ μὴ ὑπάρξει, οὐκ  
ἐστὶ ἴδιον. τὸ δὲ ποτέ οὐκ ἐν ἄλλοις ἢ πρὸς τὸν  
νῦν λεγόμενον χρόνον ἐπισκοποῦμεν· οὐκ οὖν εἰσὶ  
30 λόγοι πρὸς αὐτὸ πολλοί. λογικὸν δὲ τοῦτ' ἐστὶ  
πρόβλημα πρὸς ὃ λόγοι γένοιντ' ἂν καὶ συχνοὶ  
καὶ καλοί.

Τὸ μὲν οὖν πρὸς ἕτερον ἴδιον ῥηθὲν ἐκ τῶν περὶ  
τὸ συμβεβηκὸς τόπων ἐπισκεπτέον ἐστίν, εἰ τῷ  
μὲν συμβέβηκε τῷ δὲ μὴ συμβέβηκεν· περὶ δὲ  
35 τῶν ἀεὶ καὶ τῶν καθ' αὐτὸ διὰ τῶνδε θεωρητέον.

<sup>a</sup> See 128 b 22 ff.

neither does the reasoning faculty always command but is also sometimes commanded, nor is the appetitive and spirited faculty always commanded but also sometimes commands, when a man's soul is depraved.

Of properties those which are most suitable for arguments are the essential and the permanent and the relative. For a relative property, as we have already said,<sup>a</sup> produces several problems; for the problems which arise are necessarily either two or four in number and, therefore, the arguments which arise in connexion with them are several. The essential and the permanent can be discussed in relation to a number of things and can be observed in relation to several periods of time. The essential can be discussed in contrast with a number of things; for the property must necessarily belong to it as contrasted with everything else that exists, and so, if the subject is not set apart by it in relation to everything else, the property cannot have been duly assigned. The permanent must be observed in relation to many periods of time; for if it does not at present exist, or, if it has not existed in the past, or if it is not going to exist in the future, it will not be a property at all. On the other hand, we examine the temporary only in relation to what we call present time; there are not, therefore, many arguments about it, whereas a problem suitable for argument is one about which numerous good arguments may arise.

Suitability of each of the four kinds of property for discussion:

What, then, has been called a relative property must be examined by means of the commonplaces about accident, to see whether it has happened to one thing but not to another; but permanent and essential properties must be viewed on the principles which now follow.

129 b II. Πρῶτον μὲν εἰ μὴ καλῶς ἀποδέδοται τὸ  
 ἴδιον ἢ καλῶς. τοῦ δὲ μὴ καλῶς ἢ καλῶς ἐστὶν  
 ἓν μὲν, εἰ μὴ διὰ γνωριμωτέρων ἢ γνωριμωτέρων  
 κεῖται τὸ ἴδιον, ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἰ μὴ διὰ  
 5 γνωριμωτέρων, κατασκευάζοντα δὲ εἰ διὰ γνωρι-  
 μωτέρων. τοῦ δὲ μὴ διὰ γνωριμωτέρων ἐστὶ τὸ  
 μὲν, εἰ ὅλως ἀγνωστότερόν ἐστι τὸ ἴδιον ὃ ἀπο-  
 δίδωσι τούτου οὗ τὸ ἴδιον εἴρηκεν· οὐ γὰρ ἔσται  
 καλῶς κείμενον τὸ ἴδιον. γνώσεως γὰρ ἔνεκα τὸ  
 ἴδιον ποιούμεθα διὰ γνωριμωτέρων οὖν ἀποδοτέον·  
 οὕτω γὰρ ἔσται κατανοεῖν ἱκανῶς μᾶλλον. οἷον  
 10 ἐπεὶ ὁ θεὸς πυρὸς ἴδιον εἶναι τὸ ὁμοιότατον ψυχῇ  
 ἀγνωστοτέρῳ κέχρηται τοῦ πυρὸς τῇ ψυχῇ (μᾶλ-  
 λον γὰρ ἴσμεν τί ἐστὶ πῦρ ἢ ψυχὴ), οὐκ ἂν εἴη  
 καλῶς κείμενον ἴδιον πυρὸς τὸ ὁμοιότατον ψυχῇ.  
 τὸ δ', εἰ μὴ γνωριμωτέρον ἐστὶ τότε τῷδ' ὑπάρχον.  
 δεῖ γὰρ μὴ μόνον εἶναι γνωριμώτερον τοῦ πράγ-  
 15 ματος, ἀλλὰ καὶ ὅτι τῷδ' ὑπάρχει<sup>1</sup> γνωριμώτερον  
 ὑπάρχειν.<sup>2</sup> ὁ γὰρ μὴ εἰδὼς εἰ τῷδ' ὑπάρχει, οὐδ'  
 εἰ τῷδ' ὑπάρχει μόνῳ γνωριεῖ, ὥσθ' ὁποτέρου  
 τούτων συμβάντος ἀσαφὲς γίνεται τὸ ἴδιον. οἷον  
 ἐπεὶ ὁ θεὸς πυρὸς ἴδιον τὸ ἐν ᾧ πρῶτῳ ψυχῇ

<sup>1</sup> Reading ὑπάρχει with Wallies.

<sup>2</sup> Reading ὑπάρχειν with Wallies.



II. First, you must see whether the property has been rightly or wrongly assigned. One criterion of the rightness or wrongness of its assignment is to see whether the property is stated in terms which are less comprehensible or more comprehensible—in destructive criticism whether they are less comprehensible, in constructive argument whether they are more so. To prove that the terms are less comprehensible, one method is to see whether in general the property which your opponent assigns is less comprehensible than the subject of which he has stated it to be the property; for then the property will not have been rightly stated. For it is for the sake of comprehension that we introduce the property; therefore it must be assigned in more comprehensible terms, for it will thus be possible to understand it more adequately. For example, a man who has asserted that it is a property of 'fire' 'to be very like the soul,' in using the term 'soul' has employed something which is less comprehensible than fire (for we know better what 'fire' is than what 'soul' is), and so it would not be a correct statement of the property of fire to say that it is 'very like the soul.' Another method is to see whether the property is not more comprehensibly attributed to the subject; for not only ought the property to be more comprehensible than the subject, but it ought to be more comprehensible that it is attributed to the subject. For anyone who does not know whether it is an attribute of the subject, will also not know whether it is the attribute of that subject alone, so that, whichever of these two things occurs, the property becomes a matter of obscurity. For example, a man who has stated that it is a property of 'fire'

*Methods of testing whether a property has been correctly assigned :  
(a) The property must be more evident than its subject.*

πέφυκεν εἶναι ἀγνωστοτέρῳ κέχρηται τοῦ πυρὸς  
 20 τῷ εἰ ἐν τούτῳ ὑπάρχει ψυχὴ καὶ εἰ ἐν πρώτῳ  
 ὑπάρχει, οὐκ ἂν εἴη καλῶς κείμενον ἴδιον πυρὸς  
 τὸ ἐν ᾧ πρώτῳ ψυχὴ πέφυκεν εἶναι. κατασκευά-  
 ζοντα δὲ εἰ διὰ γνωριμωτέρων κείται τὸ ἴδιον, καὶ  
 εἰ διὰ γνωριμωτέρων καθ' ἑκάτερον τῶν τρόπων.  
 ἔσται γὰρ καλῶς κατὰ τοῦτο κείμενον τὸ ἴδιον.  
 25 τῶν γὰρ κατασκευαστικῶν τρόπων τοῦ καλῶς οἱ  
 μὲν κατὰ τοῦτο μόνον οἱ δ' ἀπλῶς δείξουσιν ὅτι  
 καλῶς. οἷον ἐπεὶ ὁ εἶπας ζῶον ἴδιον τὸ αἰσθησιν  
 ἔχειν διὰ γνωριμωτέρων καὶ γνωριμώτερον ἀπο-  
 δέδωκε τὸ ἴδιον καθ' ἑκάτερον τῶν τρόπων, εἴη  
 ἂν καλῶς ἀποδοδεκόμενον κατὰ τοῦτο τοῦ ζῶου  
 ἴδιον τὸ αἰσθησιν ἔχειν.  
 30 Ἐπειτ' ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἴ τι τῶν ὀνομάτων  
 τῶν ἐν τῷ ἰδίῳ ἀποδοδεκόμενων πλεοναχῶς λέγεται  
 ἢ καὶ ὅλος ὁ λόγος πλείω σημαίνει· οὐ γὰρ ἔσται  
 καλῶς κείμενον τὸ ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ τὸ αἰσθάνεσθαι  
 πλείω σημαίνει, ἐν μὲν τὸ αἰσθησιν ἔχειν ἐν δὲ τὸ  
 35 αἰσθήσει χρῆσθαι, οὐκ ἂν εἴη τοῦ ζῶου ἴδιον καλῶς  
 130 a κείμενον τὸ αἰσθάνεσθαι πεφυκός. διὰ τοῦτο δ'  
 οὐ χρηστέον ἐστὶν οὗτ' ὀνόματι πλεοναχῶς λεγο-

to be 'that in which the soul by nature primarily exists' has brought in a consideration which is less comprehensible than fire, by raising the question whether the soul exists in it and whether it exists in it primarily; and so it could not have been rightly asserted as a property of fire that it is 'that in which the soul by nature primarily exists.' For constructive argument, on the other hand, you must see whether the property is stated in terms which are more comprehensible and whether they are more comprehensible in each of the two ways. For then the property will have been correctly stated in this respect; for of the commonplaces used to support the correctness of the assignment, some will show that it is correctly assigned in this respect only, others that it is correctly assigned absolutely. For example, the man who has asserted as the property of a 'living creature' that it is 'possessed of sensation' has both employed more comprehensible terms and made the property more comprehensible in each of the two ways; and so to be 'possessed of sensation' would in this respect have been correctly assigned as a property of 'living creature.'

In the next place, for destructive argument, you must see whether any of the terms assigned in the property is employed in several senses, or whether the whole expression also has more than one signification; for if so, the property will not have been correctly stated. For example, since 'to be sentient' signifies more than one thing, namely, (a) 'to be possessed of sensation' and (b) 'to exercise sensation,' 'to be by nature sentient' would not be correctly assigned as a property of 'living creature.' Therefore, one must not use as signifying property either a word or an

(b) The assignment of a property is subverted: (1) If the term used has several significations.

- μένω οὔτε λόγῳ τῷ τὸ ἴδιον σημαίνοντι, διότι τὸ  
 πλεοναχῶς λεγόμενον ἀσαφὲς ποιεῖ τὸ ῥηθέν,  
 ἀποροῦντος τοῦ μέλλοντος ἐπιχειρεῖν πότερον λέγει  
 5 τῶν πλεοναχῶς λεγομένων· τὸ γὰρ ἴδιον τοῦ  
 μαθεῖν χάριν ἀποδίδοται. ἔτι δὲ πρὸς τούτοις  
 ἀναγκαῖόν ἐστιν ἔλεγχόν τινα γίνεσθαι τοῖς οὕτως  
 ἀποδιδούσι τὸ ἴδιον, ὅταν ἐπὶ τοῦ διαφωνοῦντός  
 τις ποιῇ τὸν συλλογισμόν τοῦ πλεοναχῶς λεγομένου.  
 κατασκευάζοντα δὲ εἰ μὴ πλείω σημαίνει μήτε  
 10 τῶν ὀνομάτων μηδὲν μήθ' ὅλος ὁ λόγος· ἔσται  
 γὰρ καλῶς κατὰ τοῦτο κείμενον τὸ ἴδιον. οἶον  
 ἐπεὶ οὔτε τὸ σῶμα πολλὰ δηλοῖ οὔτε τὸ εὐκίνη-  
 τότατον εἰς τὸν ἄνω τόπον οὔτε τὸ σύνολον τὸ ἐκ  
 τούτων συντιθέμενον, εἴη ἂν καλῶς κείμενον κατὰ  
 τοῦτο πυρὸς ἴδιον σῶμα τὸ εὐκίνητότατον εἰς  
 τὸν ἄνω τόπον.
- 15 "Ἐπειτ' ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἰ πλεοναχῶς λέ-  
 γεται τοῦτο οὐ τὸ ἴδιον ἀποδίδωσι, μὴ διώρισται  
 δὲ τὸ τίνος αὐτῶν ἴδιον τίθησιν· οὐ γὰρ ἔσται  
 καλῶς ἀποδεδομένον τὸ ἴδιον. δι' ἧς δ' αἰτίας,  
 οὐκ ἄδηλόν ἐστιν ἐκ τῶν πρότερον εἰρημένων·  
 τὰ γὰρ αὐτὰ συμβαίνειν ἀναγκαῖόν ἐστιν. οἶον  
 20 ἐπεὶ τὸ ἐπίστασθαι τοῦτο πολλὰ σημαίνει (τὸ μὲν  
 γὰρ ἐπιστήμην ἔχειν αὐτό, τὸ δ' ἐπιστήμη χρησθαι  
 αὐτό, τὸ δ' ἐπιστήμην εἶναι αὐτοῦ, τὸ δ' ἐπιστήμη  
 χρησθαι αὐτοῦ), οὐκ ἂν εἴη τοῦ ἐπίστασθαι τοῦτο



expression which is used with several meanings, because anything which has several meanings renders the statement obscure, since he who is about to argue is doubtful which of the various meanings his opponent is using ; for the property is assigned in order to promote understanding. Further, besides this, an opportunity is necessarily offered to refute those who assign the property in this way, by basing one's syllogism on the irrelevant meaning of a term used in several senses. In constructive argument, on the other hand, you must see whether any of the terms or the expression as a whole does not bear more than one meaning ; for the property will then be correctly asserted in this respect. For example, since neither ' body,' nor ' that which most easily moves upwards,' nor the whole expression made up by putting the two terms together has more than one meaning, it would be correct in this respect to assert that it is a property of fire that it is ' the body which most easily moves upwards.'

In the next place, for destructive criticism, you must see whether the term to which your opponent is assigning the property is used in several senses but no distinction has been made as to which of them it is whose property he asserts it to be ; for then the property will not have been correctly assigned. The reason for this is quite obvious from what has already been said ; for the results must necessarily be the same. For example, since ' knowledge of this ' signifies several different things—for it means (*a*) that it has knowledge, (*b*) that it uses knowledge, (*c*) that there is knowledge of it and (*d*) that there is use of the knowledge of it—no property of ' knowledge of this ' could be correctly assigned unless it has been

(2) If there is a multifarious predication of the subject.

130 a

καλῶς ἴδιον ἀποδεδομένον μὴ διορισθέντος τοῦ  
 τίνος τίθησιν αὐτῶν τὸ ἴδιον. κατασκευάζοντα  
 25 δὲ εἰ μὴ λέγεται πολλαχῶς τοῦτο οὐ τὸ ἴδιον  
 τίθησιν, ἀλλ' ἔστιν ἓν καὶ ἀπλοῦν· ἔσται γὰρ  
 καλῶς κατὰ τοῦτο κείμενον τὸ ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ ὁ  
 ἄνθρωπος λέγεται ἓν, εἴη ἂν καλῶς κείμενον κατὰ  
 τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἴδιον τὸ ζῶον ἡμερον φύσει.

Ἐπειτ' ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἰ πλεονάκεις εἴρηται  
 30 τὸ αὐτὸ ἐν τῷ ἰδίῳ. πολλάκις γὰρ λανθάνουσι  
 τοῦτο ποιοῦντες καὶ ἐν τοῖς ἰδίοις, καθάπερ καὶ  
 ἐν τοῖς ὄροις. οὐκ ἔσται δὲ καλῶς κείμενον τὸ  
 τοῦτο πεπονθὸς ἴδιον· ταραττεῖ γὰρ τὸν ἀκούοντα  
 πλεονάκεις λεχθέν· ἀσαφὲς οὖν ἀναγκαῖόν ἐστι γίνε-  
 σθαι, καὶ πρὸς τούτοις ἀδολεσχεῖν δοκοῦσιν.  
 35 ἔσται δὲ συμπίπτον τὸ πλεονάκεις εἰπεῖν τὸ αὐτὸ  
 κατὰ δύο τρόπους, καθ' ἓνα μὲν ὅταν ὀνομάσῃ  
 πλεονάκεις τὸ αὐτό, καθάπερ εἴ τις ἴδιον ἀποδοίῃ  
 πυρὸς σῶμα τὸ λεπτότατον τῶν σωμάτων (οὗτος  
 γὰρ πλεονάκεις εἴρηκε τὸ σῶμα), δεύτερον δ' ἂν  
 τις μεταλαμβάνῃ τοὺς λόγους ἀντὶ τῶν ὀνομάτων,  
 130 b καθάπερ εἴ τις ἀποδοίῃ γῆς ἴδιον οὐσία ἢ μάλιστα  
 κατὰ φύσιν φερομένη τῶν σωμάτων εἰς τὸν κάτω  
 τόπον, ἔπειτα μεταλάβοι ἀντὶ τῶν σωμάτων τὸ  
 οὐσιῶν τοιωνδί· ἓν γὰρ καὶ ταῦτόν ἐστι σῶμα  
 καὶ οὐσία τοιαδί. ἔσται γὰρ οὗτος τὸ οὐσία  
 5 πλεονάκεις εἰρηκώς, ὥστ' οὐδέτερον ἂν εἴη καλῶς  
 κείμενον τῶν ἰδίων. κατασκευάζοντα δὲ εἰ μηδενὶ  
 χρῆται πλεονάκεις ὀνόματι τῷ αὐτῷ· ἔσται γὰρ

definitely stated of which of these meanings the property is being asserted. For constructive argument one must see if that of which one is stating the property does not bear several meanings, but is one and single ; for then the property will be correctly stated in this respect. For example, since ' man ' is used in only one sense, ' animal by nature civilized ' would be correctly stated as a property in the case of ' man.'

Next, for destructive criticism, you must see whether the same term has been used more than once in describing the property ; for, without it being noticed, people often do this in describing properties, just as they do in definitions also. A property to which this has occurred will not be correctly stated ; for frequent repetition confuses the hearer, and this necessarily causes obscurity, and, besides, an impression of nonsense is created. Repetition will be likely to occur in two ways ; firstly, when a man uses the same word more than once—for example, when he assigns to ' fire ' the property of being ' the body which is lightest of bodies ' (for he has used the word body more than once)— ; secondly, when he puts definitions in place of words ; for instance if he were to assign to ' earth ' the property of being ' the substance which most of all bodies tends by its nature to be carried downwards ' and were then to replace ' bodies ' by ' substances of a certain kind ' ; for ' body ' and ' substance of a certain kind ' are one and the same thing. He will thus have repeated the term ' substance,' and so neither of the properties would be correctly stated. For constructive argument, on the other hand, one must see whether he avoids using the same term more than once ; for

(3) If the same term is used more than once in describing the property.

κατὰ τοῦτο καλῶς ἀποδεδομένον τὸ ἴδιον. οἷον  
 ἐπεὶ ὁ εἶπας ἀνθρώπου ἴδιον ζῶον ἐπιστήμης  
 δεκτικὸν οὐ κέχρηται τῷ αὐτῷ πολλάκις ὀνόματι,  
 10 εἴη ἂν κατὰ τοῦτο καλῶς ἀποδεδομένον τοῦ ἀν-  
 θρώπου τὸ ἴδιον.

Ἐπειτ' ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἰ τοιοῦτόν τι ἀπο-  
 δέδωκεν ἐν τῷ ἰδίῳ ὄνομα, ὃ πᾶσιν ὑπάρχει. ἀ-  
 χρεῖον γὰρ ἔσται τὸ μὴ χωρίζον ἀπὸ τινων, τὸ δ'  
 ἐν τοῖς ἰδίοις λεγόμενον χωρίζειν δεῖ, καθάπερ  
 15 καὶ τὰ ἐν τοῖς ὅροις· οὐκ οὐκ ἔσται καλῶς κείμενον  
 τὸ ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ ὁ θεὸς ἐπιστήμης ἴδιον ὑπό-  
 ληψιν ἀμετάπειστον ὑπὸ λόγου, ἐν ᾧ, τοιούτῳ  
 τινὶ κέχρηται ἐν τῷ ἰδίῳ τῷ ἐνὶ ᾧ πᾶσιν ὑπάρχει,  
 οὐκ ἂν εἴη καλῶς κείμενον τὸ τῆς ἐπιστήμης  
 ἴδιον. κατασκευάζοντα δὲ εἰ μηδενὶ κέχρηται  
 κοινῷ, ἀλλ' ἀπὸ τινος χωρίζοντι· ἔσται γὰρ καλῶς  
 20 κείμενον κατὰ τοῦτο τὸ ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ ὁ εἶπας  
 ζῶον ἴδιον τὸ ψυχὴν ἔχειν οὐδενὶ κέχρηται κοινῷ,  
 εἴη ἂν κατὰ τοῦτο καλῶς κείμενον ζῶον ἴδιον τὸ  
 ψυχὴν ἔχειν.

Ἐπειτ' ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἰ πλείῳ ἴδια ἀπο-  
 δίδωσι τοῦ αὐτοῦ, μὴ διορίσας ὅτι πλείῳ τίθησιν·  
 25 οὐ γὰρ ἔσται καλῶς κείμενον τὸ ἴδιον. καθάπερ



then the property will have been correctly assigned in this respect. For example, he who has stated as a property of man that he is ' a living creature receptive of knowledge ' has not used the same word more than once, and so the property of man would be in this respect correctly assigned.

Next, for destructive criticism, you must see whether he has assigned in the property any term which has a universal application, (for anything which does not distinguish the subject from any other things will be useless, but what is stated in properties, like what is stated in definitions, must make a distinction) and so the property will not be correctly assigned. For example, he who has laid down as a property of ' knowledge ' that it is ' a conception which cannot be changed by argument, because it is one,' has made use in the property of a term, namely, the ' one,' of such a kind as to be universally applicable, and so the property of knowledge cannot have been correctly assigned. For constructive purposes, on the other hand, you must see if he has used, not a common term, but one which distinguishes the subject from something else ; for then the property will have been correctly assigned in this respect. For example, he who has said that ' the possession of a soul ' is a property of ' living creature ' has not used any common term, and so ' the possession of a soul ' would in this respect be correctly assigned as a property of ' living creature.'

Next, for destructive criticism, see whether your opponent assigns more than one property to the same thing without definitely stating that he is laying down more than one ; for then the property will not have been correctly stated. For, just as in definitions

(4) If the term assigned has universal application.

(5) If many properties are assigned to the same thing without distinction.

130 b

γὰρ οὐδ' ἐν τοῖς ὅροις δεῖ παρὰ τὸν δηλοῦντα λόγον  
 τὴν οὐσίαν προσκείσθαι τι πλεόν, οὕτως οὐδ' ἐν  
 τοῖς ἰδίῳ παρὰ τὸν ποιοῦντα λόγον ἴδιον τὸ ῥηθὲν  
 οὐδὲν προσαποδοτέον· ἀχρεῖον γὰρ γίνεται τὸ  
 τοιοῦτον. οἷον ἐπεὶ ὁ εἶπας ἴδιον πυρὸς σῶμα τὸ  
 30 λεπτότατον καὶ κουφότατον πλείω ἀποδέδωκεν  
 ἴδια (ἐκάτερον γὰρ κατὰ μόνου τοῦ πυρὸς ἀληθές  
 ἐστὶν εἰπεῖν), οὐκ ἂν εἴη καλῶς κείμενον ἴδιον  
 πυρὸς σῶμα τὸ λεπτότατον καὶ κουφότατον.  
 κατασκευάζοντα δ' εἰ μὴ πλείω τοῦ αὐτοῦ τὰ  
 ἴδια ἀποδέδωκεν, ἀλλ' ἐν· ἔσται γὰρ κατὰ τοῦτο  
 35 καλῶς κείμενον τὸ ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ ὁ εἶπας ὑγροῦ  
 ἴδιον σῶμα τὸ εἰς ἅπαν σχῆμα ἀγόμενον ἐν ἀπο-  
 δέδωκε τὸ ἴδιον ἀλλ' οὐ πλείω, εἴη ἂν κατὰ τοῦτο  
 καλῶς κείμενον τὸ τοῦ ὑγροῦ ἴδιον.

III. Ἐπειτ' ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἰ αὐτῷ προσ-  
 κέχρηται οὗ τὸ ἴδιον ἀποδίδωσιν, ἢ τῶν αὐτοῦ  
 131 a τινί· οὐ γὰρ ἔσται καλῶς κείμενον τὸ ἴδιον. τοῦ  
 γὰρ μαθεῖν χάριν ἀποδίδεται τὸ ἴδιον· αὐτὸ μὲν  
 οὖν αὐτῷ ὁμοίως ἀγνωστόν ἐστι, τὸ δέ τι τῶν  
 αὐτοῦ ὕστερον· οὐκ οὖν ἐστὶ γνωριμώτερον. ὥστ'  
 οὐ γίνεται διὰ τούτων μᾶλλον τι μαθεῖν. οἷον  
 5 ἐπεὶ ὁ εἶπας ζώου ἴδιον οὐσίαν ἧς εἰδός ἐστιν

also nothing more ought to be added beyond the expression which shows the essence, so too in properties nothing ought to be assigned beyond the expression which makes up the property which is asserted ; for such a proceeding proves useless. For example, a man who has said that it is a property of ' fire ' to be ' the most subtle and lightest body ' has assigned more than one property (for it is true to predicate each of these terms of fire alone), and so ' the most subtle and lightest body ' would not be correctly stated as a property of fire. For constructive argument, on the other hand, you must see if the properties which your opponent has assigned to the same thing are not several but he has assigned only one ; for then the property will be correctly stated in this respect. For example, a man who has said that it is a property of ' liquid ' to be ' a body which can be induced to assume any shape ' has assigned one thing and not more than one as its property, and so the property of liquid would in this respect be correctly stated.

III. Next, for destructive criticism, you must see whether he has introduced either the actual subject whose property he is rendering or something belonging to it ; for then the property will not be correctly stated. For the property is assigned to promote understanding ; the subject, then, itself is as incomprehensible as ever, while anything that belongs to it is posterior to it and, therefore, not more comprehensible, and so the result of this method is not to understand the subject any better. For example, he who has said that it is a property of ' living creature ' to be ' a substance of which man is a species ' has introduced something which belongs

(6) If the actual subject is contained in the assigned property.

ἄνθρωπος τινὶ προσκέχρηται τῶν τούτου, οὐκ ἂν  
 εἷη καλῶς κείμενον τὸ ἴδιον. κατασκευάζοντα δὲ  
 εἰ μήτε αὐτῷ μήτε τῶν αὐτοῦ μηδενὶ χρήται.  
 ἔσται γὰρ καλῶς κατὰ τοῦτο κείμενον τὸ ἴδιον.  
 οἶον ἐπεὶ ὁ θεὸς ζώου ἴδιον τὸ ἐκ ψυχῆς καὶ σώ-  
 ματος συγκείμενον οὔτε αὐτῷ οὔτε τῶν αὐτοῦ  
 10 οὐδενὶ προσκέχρηται, εἷη ἂν καλῶς κατὰ τοῦτο  
 ἀποδεδομένον τὸ τοῦ ζώου ἴδιον.

Τὸν αὐτὸν δὲ τρόπον καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων σκεπτέον  
 ἐστὶ τῶν μὴ ποιούντων ἢ ποιούντων γνωριμώτερον,  
 ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἴ τιμι προσκέχρηται ἢ ἀντι-  
 15 κειμένῳ ἢ ὅλως ἅμα τῇ φύσει ἢ ὑστέρω τινί· οὐ  
 γὰρ ἔσται καλῶς κείμενον τὸ ἴδιον. τὸ μὲν γὰρ  
 ἀντικείμενον ἅμα τῇ φύσει, τὸ δ' ἅμα τῇ φύσει  
 καὶ τὸ ὑστερον οὐ ποιεῖ γνωριμώτερον. οἶον ἐπεὶ  
 ὁ εἶπας ἀγαθοῦ ἴδιον ὁ κακῷ μάλιστ' ἀντίκειται,  
 τῷ ἀντικειμένῳ προσκέχρηται τοῦ ἀγαθοῦ, οὐκ  
 20 ἂν εἷη τοῦ ἀγαθοῦ καλῶς ἀποδεδομένον τὸ ἴδιον.  
 κατασκευάζοντα δὲ εἰ μηδενὶ προσκέχρηται μήτ'  
 ἀντικειμένῳ μήτε ὅλως ἅμα τῇ φύσει μήθ' ὑστέρω·  
 ἔσται γὰρ κατὰ τοῦτο καλῶς ἀποδεδομένον τὸ  
 ἴδιον. οἶον ἐπεὶ ὁ θεὸς ἐπιστήμης ἴδιον ὑπόληψιν  
 τὴν πιστοτάτην οὐδενὶ προσκέχρηται οὔτ' ἀντι-  
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to 'living creature,' and so the property cannot be correctly stated. For constructive purposes you must see whether he avoids introducing either the subject itself or anything belonging to it; for then the property will be correctly stated in this respect. For example, he who has stated that it is a property of 'living creature' to be 'composed of soul and body' has not introduced the subject itself nor anything which belongs to it, and so the property of living creature would in this respect have been correctly assigned.

In the same manner inquiry must be made regarding the other terms which do or do not make the subject more comprehensible. For destructive criticism, you must see whether your opponent has introduced anything either opposite to the subject or, in general, naturally simultaneous with it or posterior to it; for then the property will not be correctly stated. For the opposite of a thing is naturally simultaneous with it, and what is naturally simultaneous and what is posterior to a thing do not make it more comprehensible. For example, he who has said that it is a property of 'good' to be 'that which is most opposed to bad' has introduced the opposite of 'good,' and so the property of 'good' could not have been correctly assigned. For constructive argument, on the other hand, you must see whether he has avoided introducing anything which is either opposite to the subject, or naturally simultaneous with it, or posterior to it; for then the property will have been correctly assigned in this respect. For example, he who has stated that it is a property of 'knowledge' to be 'the most trustworthy conception' has not introduced anything either opposite

(7) If the opposite of the subject, or something less clear than it, is assigned as a property.

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25 κειμένῳ οὐθ' ἄμα τῇ φύσει οὐθ' ὑστέρω, εἴη ἂν  
κατὰ τοῦτο καλῶς κείμενον τὸ τῆς ἐπιστήμης  
ἴδιον.

"Επειτ' ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἰ τὸ μὴ ἀεὶ παρ-  
επόμενον ἴδιον ἀποδέδωκεν, ἀλλὰ τοῦτο ὃ γίνεται  
ποτε μὴ ἴδιον· οὐ γὰρ ἔσται καλῶς εἰρημένον τὸ  
30 ἴδιον. οὔτε γὰρ ἐφ' ᾧ καταλαμβάνομεν ὑπάρχον

αὐτό, κατὰ τούτου καὶ τοῦνομα ἐξ ἀνάγκης ἀλη-  
θεύεται· οὔτ' ἐφ' ᾧ καταλαμβάνεται μὴ ὑπάρχον,  
κατὰ τούτου ἐξ ἀνάγκης οὐ ῥηθήσεται τοῦνομα.  
ἔτι δὲ πρὸς τούτοις οὐδ' ὅτε ἀποδέδωκε τὸ ἴδιον,  
ἔσται φανερόν εἰ ὑπάρχει, εἵπερ τοιοῦτόν ἐστιν

35 οἷον ἀπολείπειν. οὐκ οὐν ἔσται σαφές τὸ ἴδιον· οἷον  
ἐπεὶ ὁ θεὸς ζῶον ἴδιον τὸ κινεῖσθαι ποτε καὶ ἐστά-  
ναι τοιοῦτον ἀποδέδωκε τὸ ἴδιον ὃ οὐ γίνεται ποτε  
ἴδιον, οὐκ ἂν εἴη καλῶς κείμενον τὸ ἴδιον. κατα-  
σκευάζοντα δὲ εἰ τὸ ἐξ ἀνάγκης ἀεὶ ὄν ἴδιον ἀπο-

131 b δέδωκεν· ἔσται γὰρ καλῶς κείμενον τὸ ἴδιον  
κατὰ τοῦτο. οἷον ἐπεὶ ὁ θεὸς ἀρετῆς ἴδιον ὃ τὸν  
ἔχοντα ποιεῖ σπουδαῖον τὸ ἀεὶ παρεπόμενον ἴδιον  
ἀποδέδωκεν, εἴη ἂν κατὰ τοῦτο καλῶς ἀποδεδο-  
μένον τὸ τῆς ἀρετῆς ἴδιον.

5 "Επειτ' ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἰ τὸ νῦν ἴδιον  
ἀποδιδούς μὴ διωρίσατο ὅτι τὸ νῦν ἴδιον ἀπο-  
δίδωσιν· οὐ γὰρ ἔσται καλῶς κείμενον τὸ ἴδιον.

to the subject, or naturally simultaneous with it, or posterior to it, and so the property of knowledge will be correctly stated in this respect.

Next, for destructive criticism, you must see whether he has assigned as a property something which does not always accompany the subject but sometimes ceases to be a property ; for then the property will not have been correctly asserted. For neither is the name of the subject necessarily true of that to which we find that the property belongs, nor will it necessarily not be applied to that to which we find that the property does not belong. Further, besides this, even when he has assigned the property, it will not be clear whether it belongs, since it is of such a kind as to fail ; and so the property will not be clear. For example, he who has stated that it is a property of 'living creature' 'sometimes to move and sometimes to stand still' has assigned the kind of property which is sometimes not a property ; and so the property would not be correctly stated. For constructive argument, on the other hand, you must see if he has assigned what must of necessity always be a property ; for then the property will be correctly stated in this respect. For example, he who has stated that it is a property of 'virtue' to be 'that which makes its possessor good' has assigned as a property that which always accompanies its subject, and so the property of virtue would have been correctly assigned in this respect.

Next, for destructive criticism, you must see whether, in assigning what is a property at the moment, he has omitted to state definitely that he is assigning what is a property at the moment ; for then the property will not be correctly stated. For,

(8) If the property assigned does not always accompany the subject.

(9) If the assigner of a present property does not distinguish the time.

131 b

πρῶτον μὲν γὰρ τὸ παρὰ τὸ ἔθος γινόμενον ἅπαν  
διορισμοῦ προσδεῖται· εἰώθασι δ' ὥς ἐπὶ τὸ πολὺ  
πάντες τὸ αἰεὶ παρακολουθοῦν ἴδιον ἀποδιδόναι.

- 10 δεύτερον δὲ ἀδηλός ἐστιν ὁ μὴ διορισάμενος εἰ  
τὸ νῦν ἴδιον ἐβούλετο θεῖναι· οὐκ οὖν δοτέον ἐστὶν  
ἐπιτιμήσεως σκῆψιν· οἷον ἐπεὶ ὁ θέμενος τοῦ τι-  
νὸς ἀνθρώπου ἴδιον τὸ καθῆσθαι μετὰ τινος τὸ νῦν  
ἴδιον τίθησιν, οὐκ ἂν εἴη καλῶς τὸ ἴδιον ἀποδε-  
δωκώς, εἴπερ μὴ διορισάμενος εἶπεν· κατασκευά-  
15 ζοντα δ' εἰ τὸ νῦν ἴδιον ἀποδιδούς διορισάμενος  
ἔθηκεν ὅτι τὸ νῦν ἴδιον τίθησιν· ἔσται γὰρ καλῶς  
κείμενον κατὰ τοῦτο τὸ ἴδιον· οἷον ἐπεὶ ὁ εἶπας  
τοῦ τινὸς ἀνθρώπου ἴδιον τὸ περιπατεῖν νῦν δια-  
στειλάμενος ἔθηκε τοῦτο, καλῶς ἂν εἴη κείμενον  
τὸ ἴδιον.

- Ἐπειτ' ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἰ τοιοῦτο ἀποδέδωκε  
20 τὸ ἴδιον, ὃ φανερόν μὴ ἐστὶν ἄλλως ὑπάρχον ἢ  
αἰσθήσει· οὐ γὰρ ἔσται καλῶς κείμενον τὸ ἴδιον.  
ἅπαν γὰρ τὸ αἰσθητὸν ἔξω γινόμενον τῆς αἰσθήσεως  
ἀδηλον γίνεται· ἀφανὲς γάρ ἐστιν εἰ ἔτι ὑπάρχει,  
διὰ τὸ τῇ αἰσθήσει μόνον γνωρίζεσθαι· ἔσται δ'  
ἀληθὲς τοῦτο ἐπὶ τῶν μὴ ἐξ ἀνάγκης αἰεὶ παρακο-  
25 λουθούντων· οἷον ἐπεὶ ὁ θέμενος ἡλίου ἴδιον ἄστρον  
φερόμενον ὑπὲρ γῆς τὸ λαμπρότατον τοιούτῳ  
κέχρηται ἐν τῷ ἰδίῳ τῷ ὑπὲρ γῆς φέρεσθαι, ὃ τῇ



in the first place, any departure from custom needs to be definitely indicated, and men are usually accustomed to assign as property that which always accompanies the subject. Secondly, anyone who has not definitely laid down whether it was his intention to state what is a property at the moment, is obscure ; no pretext, therefore, should be given for criticism. For example, he who has stated that it is a property of a certain man to be sitting with someone, states what is a property at the moment, and so he would not have assigned the property correctly, since he spoke without any definite indication. For constructive argument, you must see whether, in assigning what is a property at the moment, he stated definitely that he was laying down what was a property *at the moment* ; for then the property will be correctly stated in this respect. For instance, he who has said that it is a property of a particular man to be walking about *at the moment*, has made this distinction in his statement, and so the property would be correctly stated.

Next, for destructive criticism, you should see whether the property which he has assigned is of such a kind that its presence is manifest only to sensation ; for then the property will not be correctly stated. For every object of sensation, when it passes outside the range of sensation, becomes obscure ; for it is not clear whether it still exists, because it is comprehended only by sensation. This will be true of such attributes as do not necessarily and always attend upon the subject. For example, he who has stated that it is a property of the sun to be ' the brightest star that moves above the earth ' has employed in the property something of a kind which

(10) If the property assigned is evident only to the senses.

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αἰσθήσει γνωρίζεται, οὐκ ἂν εἴη καλῶς τὸ τοῦ ἡλίου  
 ἀποδοδομένον ἴδιον· ἄδηλον γὰρ ἔσται, ὅταν δύη  
 30 ὁ ἥλιος, εἰ φέρεται ὑπὲρ γῆς, διὰ τὸ τὴν αἰσθησιν  
 τότε ἀπολείπειν ἡμᾶς. κατασκευάζοντα δ' εἰ  
 τοιοῦτον ἀποδέδωκε τὸ ἴδιον, ὃ μὴ τῇ αἰσθήσει  
 φανερόν ἐστιν ἢ ὃ αἰσθητὸν ὄν ἐξ ἀνάγκης ὑπάρχον  
 δῆλόν ἐστιν· ἔσται γὰρ κατὰ τοῦτο καλῶς κείμενον  
 τὸ ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ ὁ θέμενος ἐπιφανείας ἴδιον ὃ  
 πρῶτον κέχρωσται αἰσθητῷ μὲν τινι προσκέχρηται  
 35 τῷ κεχρῶσθαι, τοιούτῳ δ' ὃ φανερόν ἐστιν ὑπάρ-  
 χον αἰεί, εἴη ἂν κατὰ τοῦτο καλῶς ἀποδοδομένον  
 τὸ τῆς ἐπιφανείας ἴδιον.

Ἐπειτ' ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἰ τὸν ὅρον ὡς ἴδιον  
 ἀποδέδωκεν· οὐ γὰρ ἔσται καλῶς κείμενον τὸ  
 132 a ἴδιον· οὐ γὰρ δεῖ δηλοῦν τὸ τί ἦν εἶναι τὸ ἴδιον.  
 οἷον ἐπεὶ ὁ εἰπας ἀνθρώπου ἴδιον ζῶον πεζὸν  
 δίπουν τὸ τί ἦν εἶναι σημαῖνον ἀποδέδωκε τοῦ  
 ἀνθρώπου ἴδιον, οὐκ ἂν εἴη τὸ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἴδιον  
 καλῶς ἀποδοδομένον. κατασκευάζοντα δὲ εἰ ἀντι-  
 5 κατηγορούμενον μὲν ἀποδέδωκε τὸ ἴδιον, μὴ τὸ  
 τί ἦν εἶναι δὲ δηλοῦν. ἔσται γὰρ κατὰ τοῦτο  
 καλῶς ἀποδοδομένον τὸ ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ ὁ θεὸς  
 ἀνθρώπου ἴδιον ζῶον ἡμερον φύσει ἀντικατηγο-  
 ρούμενον μὲν ἀποδέδωκε τὸ ἴδιον, οὐ τὸ τί ἦν

is comprehensible only by sensation, namely, 'moving above the earth'; and so the property of the sun would not have been correctly assigned, for it will not be manifest, when the sun sets, whether it is still moving above the earth, because sensation then fails us. For constructive argument, on the other hand, you must see whether the property which he has assigned is such that it is not manifest to the sensation, or, being sensible, obviously belongs of necessity to the subject; for then the property will be in this respect correctly stated. For example, he who has stated that it is a property of 'surface' to be 'that which is the first thing to be coloured,' has employed a sensible attribute, namely 'to be coloured,' but an attribute which obviously is always present, and so the property of 'surface' will in this respect have been correctly assigned.

Next, for destructive criticism, you must see whether he has assigned the definition as a property; for then the property will not be correctly stated, for the property ought not to show the essence. For example, he who has said that it is a property of man to be 'a pedestrian biped animal' has assigned as a property of man that which signifies his essence, and so the man's property will not have been correctly assigned. For constructive argument, on the other hand, you must see whether he has assigned as the property a predicate which is convertible with the subject but does not signify the essence; for then the property will have been correctly assigned in this respect. For example, he who has stated that it is a property of man to be 'by nature a civilized animal' has assigned a property which is convertible with the subject but does not signify the essence; and so the

(11) If what is assigned as a property is the definition.

εἶναι δὲ δηλοῦν, εἴη ἂν κατὰ τοῦτο καλῶς ἀποδομενόν τὸ ἴδιον τοῦ ἀνθρώπου.

- 10 Ἐπειτ' ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἰ μὴ εἰς τὸ τί ἐστι θεῖς<sup>1</sup> ἀποδέδωκε τὸ ἴδιον. δεῖ γὰρ τῶν ἰδίων, καθάπερ καὶ τῶν ὄρων, τὸ πρῶτον ἀποδίδοσθαι γένος, ἔπειθ' οὕτως ἤδη προσάπτεσθαι τὰ λοιπά, καὶ χωρίζειν. ὥστε τὸ μὴ τοῦτον τὸν τρόπον κείμενον ἴδιον οὐκ ἂν εἴη καλῶς ἀποδομενόν.
- 15 οἷον ἐπεὶ ὁ εἰπᾶς ζῶου ἴδιον τὸ ψυχὴν ἔχειν οὐκ ἔθηκεν εἰς τὸ τί ἐστι τὸ ζῶον, οὐκ ἂν εἴη καλῶς κείμενον τὸ τοῦ ζῶου ἴδιον. κατασκευάζοντα δὲ εἴ τις εἰς τὸ τί ἐστι θεῖς οὐ τὸ ἴδιον ἀποδίδωσι, τὰ λοιπὰ προσάπτει· ἔσται γὰρ κατὰ τοῦτο καλῶς ἀποδομενόν τὸ ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ ὁ θεῖς ἀνθρώπου
- 20 ἴδιον ζῶον ἐπιστήμης δεκτικὸν εἰς τὸ τί ἐστι θεῖς ἀπέδωκε τὸ ἴδιον, εἴη ἂν κατὰ τοῦτο καλῶς κείμενον τὸ ἴδιον τοῦ ἀνθρώπου.

IV. Πότερον μὲν οὖν καλῶς ἢ οὐ καλῶς ἀποδέδοται τὸ ἴδιον, διὰ τῶνδε σκεπτέον. πότερον δ' ἰδιόν ἐστιν ὅλως τὸ εἰρημένον ἢ οὐκ ἴδιον, ἐκ

25 τῶνδε θεωρητέον. οἱ γὰρ ἀπλῶς κατασκευάζοντες τὸ ἴδιον ὅτι καλῶς κείται τόποι οἱ αὐτοὶ ἔσονται τοῖς ἴδιον ὅλως ποιούσιν· ἐν ἐκείνοις οὖν ῥηθήσονται.

<sup>1</sup> Reading ἐστι θεῖς with Dennison for ἐστιν ὁ θεῖς.

<sup>a</sup> i.e. from other members of the same genus.



property of man will have been correctly assigned in this respect.

Next, for destructive criticism, you must see whether he has assigned the property without placing the subject in its essence ; for in properties, as in definitions, the first term to be assigned ought to be the genus, and then, and not till then, the other terms should be added and should distinguish the subject.<sup>a</sup> The property, therefore, which is not stated in this manner will not have been correctly assigned. For example, he who has said that it is a property of ' living creature ' ' to possess a soul ' has not placed ' living creature ' in its essence, and so the property of ' living creature ' would not be correctly stated. For constructive argument, on the other hand, you must see if he has placed the subject, whose property he is assigning, in its essence and then adds the other terms ; for then the property will have been correctly assigned in this respect. For example, he who has stated as a property of ' man ' that he is ' a living creature receptive of knowledge ' has placed the subject in its essence and then assigned the property, and so the property of ' man ' would be correctly stated in this respect.

(12) If the property is assigned without mentioning the essence of the subject.

IV. It is by these methods, then, that examination should be made to see whether the property has been correctly or incorrectly assigned. Whether that which is asserted to be a property is really a property or not a property at all, must be considered on the following principles ; for the commonplaces which confirm absolutely that the property is correctly stated will be the same as those which make it a property at all, and will, therefore, be included in the statement of them.

*Rules for testing whether a term belongs as a property at all :*

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Πρῶτον μὲν οὖν ἀνασκευάζοντα ἐπιβλέπειν ἐφ'  
 ἕκαστον οὐ τὸ ἴδιον ἀποδέδωκεν, [οἶον] εἰ μὴδενὶ  
 ὑπάρχει, ἢ εἰ μὴ κατὰ τοῦτο ἀληθεύεται, ἢ εἰ μὴ  
 30 ἔστιν ἴδιον ἑκάστου αὐτῶν κατ' ἐκεῖνο οὐ τὸ ἴδιον  
 ἀποδέδωκεν· οὐ γὰρ ἔσται ἴδιον τὸ κείμενον εἶναι  
 ἴδιον· οἶον ἐπεὶ κατὰ τοῦ γεωμετρικοῦ οὐκ ἀλη-  
 θεύεται τὸ ἀνεξαπάτητον εἶναι ὑπὸ λόγου (ἀπα-  
 τᾶται γὰρ ὁ γεωμετρικὸς ἐν τῷ ψευδογραφεῖσθαι),  
 οὐκ ἂν εἴη τοῦ ἐπιστήμονος ἴδιον τὸ μὴ ἀπατᾶσθαι  
 35 ὑπὸ λόγου. κατασκευάζοντα δ' εἰ κατὰ παντὸς  
 ἀληθεύεται καὶ κατὰ τοῦτ' ἀληθεύεται· ἔσται γὰρ  
 ἴδιον τὸ κείμενον <μὴ> εἶναι<sup>1</sup> ἴδιον. οἶον ἐπεὶ τὸ  
 132 b ζῶον ἐπιστήμης δεκτικὸν κατὰ παντὸς ἀνθρώπου  
 ἀληθεύεται καὶ ἥ ἄνθρωπος, εἴη ἂν ἀνθρώπου ἴδιον  
 τὸ ζῶον ἐπιστήμης δεκτικόν. ἔστι δ' ὁ τόπος  
 οὗτος ἀνασκευάζοντι μὲν, εἰ μὴ καθ' οὐ τοῦνομα,  
 5 καὶ ὁ λόγος ἀληθεύεται, καὶ εἰ μὴ καθ' οὐ ὁ λόγος,  
 καὶ τοῦνομα ἀληθεύεται· κατασκευάζοντι δέ, εἰ  
 καθ' οὐ τοῦνομα, καὶ ὁ λόγος, καὶ εἰ καθ' οὐ ὁ  
 λόγος, καὶ τοῦνομα κατηγορεῖται.

Ἐπειτ' ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἰ μὴ καθ' οὐ τοῦ-  
 νομα, καὶ ὁ λόγος, καὶ εἰ μὴ καθ' οὐ ὁ λόγος, καὶ

<sup>1</sup> Reading <μὴ> εἶναι with Pacius, Waitz and Strache.

<sup>a</sup> i.e. that given in the property.

<sup>b</sup> i.e. that of the subject.

First of all, then, for destructive criticism, you must look at each subject of which he has assigned the property, and see whether it does not belong to any of them, or whether it is not true in the particular respect in question, or whether it is not a property of each of them as regards that of which he has assigned the property ; for then that which is stated to be a property will not be a property. For example, seeing that it is not true to say about a geometrician that he is ' not liable to be deceived by argument ' (for he is deceived when a false figure is drawn), it could not be a property of a scientific man ' not to be deceived by argument.' For constructive purposes, on the other hand, you must see whether the property is true in every case and in the particular respect in question ; for then what is stated not to be a property will be a property. For example, seeing that ' a living creature receptive of knowledge ' is a true description of every man and true *qua* man, it would be a property of man to be ' a living creature receptive of knowledge.' The object of this commonplace is, for destructive criticism, to see whether the description <sup>a</sup> is untrue of that of which the name <sup>b</sup> is true, and whether the name is untrue of that of which the description is true ; on the other hand, in constructive argument, the object is to see whether the description also is predicated of that of which the name is predicated, and whether the name also is predicated of that of which the description is predicated.

Next, for destructive criticism, you must see whether the description is not asserted of that of which the name is asserted, and if the name is not asserted of that of which the description is asserted ;

It is not a property  
(a) if it does not concur with each individual.

(b) If the description is not asserted of that of which the

10 τοῦνομα λέγεται· οὐ γὰρ ἔσται ἴδιον τὸ κείμενον ἴδιον εἶναι. οἷον ἐπεὶ τὸ μὲν ζῶον ἐπιστήμης μετέχον ἀληθεύεται κατὰ τοῦ θεοῦ, ὃ δ' ἄνθρωπος οὐ κατηγορεῖται, οὐκ ἂν εἴη τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἴδιον ζῶον ἐπιστήμης μετέχον. κατασκευάζοντα δὲ εἰ καθ' οὗ ὁ λόγος, καὶ τοῦνομα κατηγορεῖται, καὶ  
15 καθ' οὗ τοῦνομα, καὶ ὁ λόγος κατηγορεῖται· ἔσται γὰρ ἴδιον τὸ κείμενον μὴ εἶναι ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ καθ' οὗ τὸ ψυχὴν ἔχειν, τὸ ζῶον ἀληθεύεται, καὶ καθ' οὗ τὸ ζῶον, τὸ ψυχὴν ἔχειν, εἴη ἂν τὸ ψυχὴν ἔχειν τοῦ ζώου ἴδιον.

Ἐπειτ' ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἰ τὸ ὑποκείμενον  
20 ἴδιον ἀπέδωκε τοῦ ἐν τῷ ὑποκειμένῳ λεγομένου· οὐ γὰρ ἔσται ἴδιον τὸ κείμενον ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ ὁ ἀποδοὺς ἴδιον τοῦ λεπτομερεστάτου σώματος τὸ πῦρ τὸ ὑποκείμενον ἀποδέδωκε τοῦ κατηγορουμένου ἴδιον, οὐκ ἂν εἴη τὸ πῦρ σώματος τοῦ λεπτομερεστάτου ἴδιον. διὰ τοῦτο δ' οὐκ ἔσται  
25 τὸ ὑποκείμενον τοῦ ἐν τῷ ὑποκειμένῳ ἴδιον, ὅτι τὸ αὐτὸ πλειόνων ἔσται καὶ διαφόρων τῷ εἶδει ἴδιον. τῷ γὰρ αὐτῷ πλείω τινὰ διάφορα τῷ εἶδει ὑπάρχει κατὰ μόνου λεγόμενα, ὧν ἔσται πάντων ἴδιον τὸ ὑποκείμενον, ἐάν τις οὕτω τιθῇται τὸ ἴδιον. κατασκευάζοντα δ' εἰ τὸ ἐν τῷ ὑπο-



for then the property which is stated will not be a property. For example, since a 'living creature which partakes of knowledge' is true of 'God' but 'man' is not predicated of 'God,' a 'living creature which partakes of knowledge' would not be a property of man. For constructive argument, on the other hand, you must see whether the name also is predicated of that of which the description is predicated, and whether the description also is predicated of that of which the name is predicated; for then that which is asserted not to be a property will be a property. For example, since 'living creature' is true of that of which 'possessing a soul' is true, and 'possessing a soul' is true of that of which 'living creature' is true, 'possessing a soul' would be a property of 'living being.'

name is asserted, and *vice versa*.

Next, for destructive criticism, you must see whether he has assigned the subject as a property of that which is said to be 'in the subject'; for then what is stated to be a property will not be a property. For example, he who has assigned 'fire' as a property of 'the body consisting of the most subtle particles,' has assigned the subject as a property of its predicate, and so 'fire' could not be a property of 'the body consisting of the most subtle particles.' The subject will not be a property of that which is in the subject for this reason, namely, that the same thing will then be the property of a number of specifically different things. For a number of specifically different things belong to the same thing, being asserted to belong to it alone, of all of which the subject will be a property, if one states the property in this manner. For constructive argument, on the other hand, you must see whether he assigned what

(c) If the subject is assigned as the property.

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30 κειμένῳ ἀπέδωκεν ἴδιον τοῦ ὑποκειμένου. ἔσται γὰρ ἴδιον τὸ κείμενον μὴ εἶναι ἴδιον, εἴνπερ κατὰ μόνων κατηγορῆται, ὧν εἴρηται τὸ ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ ὁ εἶπας γῆς ἴδιον σῶμα τὸ βαρύτερον τῷ εἶδει τοῦ ὑποκειμένου ἀπέδωκε τὸ ἴδιον κατὰ μόνου λεγόμενον τοῦ πράγματος, καὶ ὥς τὸ ἴδιον κατηγορεῖται, εἴη ἂν τὸ τῆς γῆς ἴδιον ὀρθῶς κείμενον.

35 Ἐπειτ' ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἰ κατὰ μέθεξιν ἀπέδωκε τὸ ἴδιον· οὐ γὰρ ἔσται ἴδιον τὸ κείμενον  
133 a εἶναι ἴδιον. τὸ γὰρ κατὰ μέθεξιν ὑπάρχον εἰς τὸ τί ἦν εἶναι συμβάλλεται· εἴη δ' ἂν τὸ τοιοῦτο διαφορὰ τις κατὰ τινος ἑνὸς εἶδους λεγομένη. οἷον ἐπεὶ ὁ εἶπας ἀνθρώπου ἴδιον τὸ πεζὸν δίπουν κατὰ μέθεξιν ἀπέδωκε τὸ ἴδιον, οὐκ ἂν εἴη τάν-  
5 θρώπου ἴδιον τὸ πεζὸν δίπουν. κατασκευάζοντα δὲ εἰ μὴ κατὰ μέθεξιν ἀπέδωκε τὸ ἴδιον, μηδὲ τὸ τί ἦν εἶναι δηλοῦν, ἀντικατηγορουμένου τοῦ πράγματος· ἔσται γὰρ ἴδιον τὸ κείμενον μὴ εἶναι ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ ὁ θεὸς ζώου ἴδιον τὸ αἰσθάνεσθαι πεφυκὸς οὔτε κατὰ μέθεξιν ἀπέδωκεν ἴδιον οὔτε τὸ τί ἦν  
10 εἶναι δηλοῦν, ἀντικατηγορουμένου τοῦ πράγματος, εἴη ἂν ζώου ἴδιον τὸ αἰσθάνεσθαι πεφυκός.

Ἐπειτ' ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἰ μὴ ἐνδέχεται ἅμα

is in the subject as a property of the subject ; for then what is stated not to be a property will be a property, if it is predicated only of those things of which it has been asserted to be the property. For example, he who has said that it is a property of ' earth ' to be ' specifically the heaviest body ' has assigned as a property of the subject something which is asserted of that thing alone, and it is predicated as the property ; and so the property of ' earth ' would be correctly stated.

Next, for destructive criticism, you must see whether he assigned the property as something of which the subject partakes ; for then that which is stated to be a property will not be a property. For that which belongs because the subject partakes of it is a contribution to its essence, and, as such, would be a differentia attributed to some one species. For example, he who has said that it is a property of ' man ' to be a ' pedestrian biped ' has assigned the property as something of which the subject partakes, and so ' pedestrian biped ' could not be a property of ' man.' For constructive argument, on the other hand, you must see whether he has failed to assign the property as something of which the subject partakes, or as showing the essence, the subject being convertible ; for then what is stated not to be a property will be a property. For example, he who has stated that it is a property of ' living creature ' to be ' naturally possessed of sensation ' has assigned a property neither as partaken of by the subject nor as showing its essence, the subject being convertible ; and so to be ' naturally possessed of sensation ' would be a property of ' living creature.'

(d) If that is assigned as a property which belongs to the subject as a differentia.

Next, for destructive criticism, you must see (e) If that is assigned

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ὑπάρχειν τὸ ἴδιον, ἀλλ' ἢ ὕστερον ἢ πρότερον ἢ  
 οὐ τοῦνομα· οὐ γὰρ ἔσται ἴδιον τὸ κείμενον εἶναι  
 15 ἴδιον, ἢ οὐδέποτε ἢ οὐκ αἰεί. οἷον ἐπεὶ ἐνδέχεται  
 καὶ πρότερόν τινα ὑπάρξαι καὶ ὕστερον τὸ βαδίζειν  
 διὰ τῆς ἀγορᾶς ἢ τὸ ἄνθρωπος, οὐκ ἂν εἴη τὸ  
 βαδίζειν διὰ τῆς ἀγορᾶς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἴδιον, ἢ  
 οὐδέποτ' ἢ οὐκ αἰεί. κατασκευάζοντα δὲ εἰ ἅμα  
 ἐξ ἀνάγκης αἰεί ὑπάρχει, μήτε ὅρος ὃν μήτε δια-  
 20 φορά· ἔσται γὰρ ἴδιον τὸ κείμενον μὴ εἶναι ἴδιον.  
 οἷον ἐπεὶ τὸ ζῶον ἐπιστήμης δεκτικὸν ἅμα ἐξ  
 ἀνάγκης αἰεί ὑπάρχει καὶ τὸ ἄνθρωπος, οὔτε δια-  
 φορὰ ὃν οὔθ' ὅρος, εἴη ἂν τὸ ζῶον ἐπιστήμης  
 δεκτικὸν τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἴδιον.

Ἐπειτ' ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἰ τῶν αὐτῶν, ἢ  
 25 ταῦτά ἐστι, μὴ ἐστι τὸ αὐτὸ ἴδιον· οὐ γὰρ ἔσται  
 ἴδιον τὸ κείμενον εἶναι ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ οὐκ ἔστι  
 διωκτοῦ τὸ φαίνεσθαι τισιν ἀγαθὸν ἴδιον, οὐδ' ἂν  
 αἵρετοῦ εἴη ἴδιον τὸ φαίνεσθαι τισιν ἀγαθόν·  
 ταῦτόν γάρ ἐστι τὸ διωκτὸν καὶ τὸ αἵρετόν.  
 κατασκευάζοντα δ' εἰ τοῦ αὐτοῦ, ἢ ταυτό ἐστι,  
 30 ταὐτὸ ἴδιον· ἔσται γὰρ ἴδιον τὸ κείμενον μὴ εἶναι



## TOPICA, V. IV

whether the property cannot possibly belong simultaneously but must belong as something posterior or prior to that to which the name belongs ; for then that which is stated to be a property will not be a property, that is to say, it will be either never or not always a property. For example, since it is possible for ' walking through the market-place ' to be an attribute of something as both prior and posterior to the attribute ' man,' ' walking through the market-place ' could not be a property of ' man,' that is to say, it would be either never or not always a property. For constructive argument you must see whether the property always belongs of necessity simultaneously, being neither a definition nor a differentia ; for then what is stated not to be a property will be a property. For example, ' animal receptive of knowledge ' always belongs of necessity simultaneously with ' man ' and is neither a differentia nor a definition, and so ' animal receptive of knowledge ' would be a property of ' man.'

as a property which is prior or posterior to the subject.

Next, for destructive criticism, you must see whether the same thing fails to be a property of things which are the same as the subject, in so far as they are the same ; for then what is stated to be a property will not be a property. For example, since it is not a property of an ' object of pursuit ' to ' appear good to certain people,' neither could it be a property of an ' object of choice ' to ' appear good to certain people ' ; for ' object of pursuit ' and ' object of choice ' are the same thing. For constructive argument, on the other hand, you must see whether the same thing is a property of something which is the same as the subject, in so far as it is the same ; for then what is stated not to be a property will be a property. For

(f) If the same thing fails to be the property of the same things, in so far as they are the same.

133 a

ἴδιον. οἶον ἐπεὶ ἀνθρώπου, ἥ ἀνθρωπός ἐστι, λέγεται ἴδιον τὸ τριμερῇ ψυχῇ ἔχειν, καὶ βροτοῦ, ἥ βροτός ἐστιν, εἴη ἂν ἴδιον τὸ τριμερῇ ψυχῇ ἔχειν. χρήσιμος δ' ὁ τόπος οὗτος καὶ ἐπὶ τοῦ συμβεβηκότος· τοῖς γὰρ αὐτοῖς, ἥ ταῦτά ἐστι, ταῦτά δεῖ ὑπάρχειν ἢ μὴ ὑπάρχειν.

- 35 Ἐπειτ' ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἰ τῶν αὐτῶν τῷ εἶδει μὴ ταῦτόν ἀεὶ τῷ εἶδει τὸ ἴδιόν ἐστιν· οὐδὲ γὰρ  
 133 b τοῦ εἰρημένου ἔσται ἴδιον τὸ κείμενον εἶναι ἴδιον. οἶον ἐπεὶ ταῦτόν ἐστι τῷ εἶδει ἀνθρώπος καὶ ἵππος, οὐκ ἀεὶ δὲ τοῦ ἵππου ἐστὶν ἴδιον τὸ ἐστάναι ὑφ' αὐτοῦ, οὐκ ἂν εἴη τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἴδιον τὸ κινεῖσθαι ὑφ' αὐτοῦ· ταῦτόν γάρ ἐστι τῷ εἶδει τὸ  
 5 κινεῖσθαι καὶ ἐστάναι ὑφ' αὐτοῦ, ἥ ζῶον δ' ἐστὶν ἐκάτερον αὐτῶν συμβέβηκεν.<sup>1</sup> κατασκευάζοντα δ' εἰ τῶν αὐτῶν τῷ εἶδει ταῦτόν ἀεὶ τὸ ἴδιον· ἔσται γὰρ ἴδιον τὸ κείμενον μὴ εἶναι ἴδιον. οἶον ἐπεὶ ἀνθρώπου ἐστὶν ἴδιον τὸ εἶναι πεζὸν δίπουν, καὶ ὄρνιθος ἂν εἴη ἴδιον τὸ εἶναι πτηνὸν δίπουν· ἐκά-  
 10 τερον γὰρ τούτων ἐστὶ ταῦτόν τῷ εἶδει, ἥ τὰ μὲν ὥς ὑπὸ τὸ αὐτὸ γένος ἐστὶν εἶδη, ὑπὸ τὸ ζῶον ὄντα, τὰ δὲ ὥς γένους διαφοραί, τοῦ ζώου. οὗτος δ' ὁ τόπος ψευδής ἐστιν, ὅταν τὸ μὲν ἕτερον τῶν λεχθέντων ἐνὶ τινὶ μόνῳ ὑπάρχῃ εἶδει, τὸ δ' ἕτερον πολλοῖς, καθάπερ τὸ πεζὸν τετράπουν.
- 15 Ἐπεὶ δὲ τὸ ταῦτόν καὶ τὸ ἕτερον πολλαχῶς

<sup>1</sup> ἥ ζῶον <δ'> ἐστὶν ἐκάτερον αὐτῶν συμβέβηκεν, Strache-Wallies.

<sup>a</sup> Plato, *Republic* iv. 435 b ff.

<sup>b</sup> i.e. there are many pedestrian quadrupeds besides the horse, but man is the only pedestrian biped.

example, since it is said to be a property of 'man,' *qua* man, 'to possess a tripartite soul,' <sup>a</sup> it would also be a property of 'mortal,' *qua* mortal, 'to possess a tripartite soul.' This commonplace is useful also in dealing with an accident; for the same things must necessarily belong or not belong to the same things in so far as they are the same.

Next, for destructive criticism you must see whether the property of things which are the same in kind are not always the same in kind; for then neither will that which is stated to be a property be a property of the proposed subject. For example, since man and horse are the same in kind and it is not always a property of a horse to stand still of his own accord, neither could it be a property of a man to move of his own accord, since to stand still and to move of one's own accord are the same in kind and have occurred in as much as each of them is an animal. For constructive argument, on the other hand, you must see whether the property of things which are the same in kind is always the same; for then what is stated not to be a property will be a property. For example, since it is a property of 'man' to be a 'pedestrian biped,' it would also be a property of 'bird' to be a 'winged biped'; for each of these is the same in kind, in as much as 'man' and 'bird' are the same, being species falling under the same genus, namely 'animal,' while 'pedestrian' and 'winged' are the same, being differentiae of the genus, namely 'animal.' This commonplace is misleading when one of the properties mentioned belongs to one species only, while the other belongs to many, as, for instance, 'pedestrian quadruped.' <sup>b</sup>

(g) If the property of things which are specifically the same is not always specifically the same.

Now, since 'same' and 'different' have several

(h) If what is the pro-

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λέγεται, ἔργον ἐστὶ σοφιστικῶς λαμβάνοντι ἐνὸς  
 ἀποδοῦναι καὶ μόνου τινὸς τὸ ἴδιον. τὸ γὰρ  
 ὑπάρχον τινὶ ᾧ συμβέβηκέ τι, καὶ τῷ συμβεβηκότι  
 ὑπάρξει λαμβανομένῳ μετὰ τοῦ ᾧ συμβέβηκεν,  
 οἷον τὸ ὑπάρχον ἀνθρώπῳ καὶ λευκῷ ἀνθρώπῳ  
 20 ὑπάρξει, ἂν ᾗ λευκὸς ἄνθρωπος, καὶ τὸ λευκῷ δὲ  
 ἀνθρώπῳ ὑπάρχον καὶ ἀνθρώπῳ ὑπάρξει. δια-  
 βάλλοι δ' ἂν τις τὰ πολλὰ τῶν ἰδίων, τὸ ὑποκεί-  
 μενον ἄλλο μὲν καθ' αὐτὸ ποιῶν ἄλλο δὲ μετὰ τοῦ  
 συμβεβηκότος, οἷον ἄλλο μὲν ἄνθρωπον εἶναι  
 25 λέγων ἄλλο δὲ λευκὸν ἄνθρωπον, ἔτι δὲ ἕτερον  
 ποιῶν τὴν ἕξιν καὶ τὸ κατὰ τὴν ἕξιν λεγόμενον.  
 τὸ γὰρ τῇ ἕξει ὑπάρχον καὶ τῷ κατὰ τὴν ἕξιν  
 λεγομένῳ ὑπάρξει, καὶ τὸ τῷ κατὰ τὴν ἕξιν λεγο-  
 μένῳ ὑπάρχον καὶ τῇ ἕξει ὑπάρξει. οἷον ἐπεὶ ὁ  
 ἐπιστήμων κατὰ τὴν ἐπιστήμην λέγεται διακεῖ-  
 30 σθαι, οὐκ ἂν εἴη τῆς ἐπιστήμης ἴδιον τὸ ἀμετά-  
 πειστον ὑπὸ λόγου· καὶ γὰρ ὁ ἐπιστήμων ἔσται  
 ἀμετάπειστος ὑπὸ λόγου. κατασκευάζοντα δὲ  
 ῥητέον ὅτι οὐκ ἔστιν ἕτερον ἀπλῶς τὸ ᾧ συμ-  
 βέβηκε καὶ τὸ συμβεβηκὸς μετὰ τοῦ ᾧ συμβέβηκε  
 λαμβανόμενον, ἀλλ' ἄλλο λέγεται τῷ ἕτερον εἶναι  
 αὐτοῖς τὸ εἶναι· οὐ ταῦτόν γάρ ἐστιν ἀνθρώπῳ τε  
 35 τὸ εἶναι ἀνθρώπῳ καὶ λευκῷ ἀνθρώπῳ τὸ εἶναι  
 ἀνθρώπῳ λευκῷ. ἔτι δὲ θεωρητέον ἐστὶ παρὰ τὰς  
 134 a πτώσεις, λέγοντα διότι οὐθ' ὁ ἐπιστήμων ἔσται  
 τὸ ἀμετάπειστον ὑπὸ λόγου ἀλλ' ὁ ἀμετάπειστος  
 ὑπὸ λόγου, οὐθ' ἡ ἐπιστήμη τὸ ἀμετάπειστον ὑπὸ



meanings, it is a difficult task with a sophistical opponent to assign the property of some one thing taken by itself. For that which belongs to something to which an accident is attached will also belong to the accident taken with the subject to which it is attached. For example, what belongs to 'man' will also belong to 'white man,' if there is a white man, and what belongs to 'white man' will also belong to 'man.' One might, therefore, misrepresent the majority of properties by making the subject one thing when taken by itself and another thing when taken with its accident, saying, for example, that 'man' is one thing and 'white man' another thing, and, further, by making a difference between the state and that which is described in the terms of the state. For that which belongs to the state will belong also to that which is described in the terms of the state, and that which belongs to what is described in the terms of the state will belong also to the state. For example, since the condition of a scientist is described in the terms of his science, it cannot be a property of 'science' to be 'proof against the persuasion of argument,' for then the scientist also will be 'proof against the persuasion of argument.' For constructive purposes you should say that that to which the accident belongs is not absolutely different from the accident taken with that to which it is accidental, but is called 'other than it' because their kind of being is different; for it is not the same thing for a 'man' to be a 'man' and for a 'white man' to be a 'white man.' Further, you should look at the inflexions, maintaining that the scientist is not 'that which' but 'he who' is proof against the persuasion of argument, while Science is

property of the subject alone is not the property when joined to an accident and vice versa.

λόγου ἄλλ' ἢ ἀμετάπειστος ὑπὸ λόγου· πρὸς γὰρ τὸν πάντως ἐνιστάμενον πάντως ἀντιτακτέον ἐστίν.

- 5 V. "Ἐπειτ' ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἰ τὸ φύσει ὑπάρχον βουλόμενος ἀποδοῦναι τοῦτον τὸν τρόπον τίθησι τῇ λέξει, ὥστε τὸ ἀεὶ ὑπάρχον σημαίνει· δόξειε γὰρ ἂν κινεῖσθαι τὸ κείμενον εἶναι ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ ὁ εἶπας ἀνθρώπου ἴδιον τὸ δίπουν βούλεται μὲν τὸ φύσει ὑπάρχον ἀποδιδόναι, σημαίνει
- 10 δὲ τῇ λέξει τὸ ἀεὶ ὑπάρχον, οὐκ ἂν εἴη ἀνθρώπου ἴδιον τὸ δίπουν· οὐ γὰρ πᾶς ἄνθρωπος ἐστὶ δύο πόδας ἔχων. κατασκευάζοντα δ' εἰ βούλεται τὸ φύσει ὑπάρχον ἴδιον ἀποδιδόναι καὶ τῇ λέξει τοῦτον τὸν τρόπον σημαίνει· οὐ γὰρ κινήσεται κατὰ τοῦτο τὸ ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ ὁ ἀνθρώπου ἴδιον ἀπο-
- 15 διδούς τὸ ζῶον ἐπιστήμης δεκτικὸν καὶ βούλεται καὶ τῇ λέξει σημαίνει τὸ φύσει ὑπάρχον ἴδιον, οὐκ ἂν κινοῖτο κατὰ τοῦτο, ὥς οὐκ ἐστὶν ἀνθρώπου ἴδιον τὸ ζῶον ἐπιστήμης δεκτικόν.

"Ἐτι ὅσα λέγεται ὡς κατ' ἄλλο τι πρῶτον ἢ ὡς πρῶτον αὐτό, ἔργον ἐστὶν ἀποδοῦναι τῶν τοιούτων

20 τὸ ἴδιον· ἐὰν μὲν γὰρ τοῦ κατ' ἄλλο τι ἴδιον ἀποδῶς, καὶ κατὰ τοῦ πρῶτου ἀληθεύσεται, ἐὰν δὲ τοῦ πρῶτου θῇς, καὶ τοῦ κατ' ἄλλο κατηγο-

<sup>a</sup> Scientist being masculine and Science feminine in Greek.

not 'that which' but 'she who' <sup>a</sup> is proof against the persuasion of argument; for against the man who uses every kind of objection, you should use every kind of opposition.

V. Next, for destructive criticism, you should see whether your opponent, while he intends to assign to the subject an attribute which naturally belongs, expresses himself in such language as to signify one which always belongs; for then that which is stated to be a property would seem to be subverted. For example, he who has said that 'biped' is a property of man intends to assign an attribute which belongs by nature, but, by the language which he uses, signifies an attribute which always belongs; and so 'biped' could not be a property of man, since every man is not in possession of two feet. For constructive purposes, on the other hand, you must see whether he intends to assign as a property that which belongs by nature and signifies this by the language which he uses; for then the property will not be subverted in this respect. For example, he who assigns as a property of man that he is 'an animal receptive of knowledge' both has the intention and succeeds in signifying by his language the property which belongs by nature, and so 'an animal receptive of knowledge' cannot be subverted in this respect on the ground that it is not a property of man.

Further, it is a difficult task to assign the property of such things as are described primarily in the terms of something else or primarily in themselves; for if you assign a property of that which is described in the terms of something else, it will be true also of that which is primary; whereas if you state it of something which is primary, it will also be predicated of

*Various rules for subverting a proposition:*  
(a) Observe whether an attribute which belongs naturally is assigned as always belonging.

[Note on the difficulty of rendering things which are called as they are primarily after something else,

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ρηθήσεται. οἷον ἐὰν μὲν τις ἐπιφανείας ἴδιον ἀποδῶ τὸ κεχρῶσθαι, καὶ κατὰ σώματος ἀληθεύεται τὸ κεχρῶσθαι, ἐὰν δὲ σώματος, καὶ  
 25 κατ' ἐπιφανείας κατηγορηθήσεται. ὥστε οὐ καθ' οὗ ὁ λόγος, καὶ τοῦνομα ἀληθεύεται.

Συμβαίνει δ' ἐν ἐνίοις τῶν ἰδίων ὡς ἐπὶ τὸ πολὺ γίνεσθαι τινα ἀμαρτίαν παρὰ τὸ μὴ διορίζεσθαι πῶς καὶ τίνων τίθησι τὸ ἴδιον. ἅπαντες γὰρ ἐπιχειροῦσιν ἀποδιδόναι τὸ ἴδιον ἢ τὸ φύσει ὑπάρ-  
 30 χον, καθάπερ ἀνθρώπου τὸ δίπουν, ἢ τὸ ὑπάρχον, καθάπερ ἀνθρώπου τινὸς τὸ τέτταρας δακτύλους ἔχειν, ἢ εἶδει, καθάπερ πυρὸς τὸ λεπτομερέστατον, ἢ ἀπλῶς, καθάπερ ζώου τὸ ζῆν, ἢ κατ' ἄλλο, καθάπερ ψυχῆς τὸ φρόνιμον, ἢ ὡς τὸ πρῶτον, καθάπερ λογιστικοῦ τὸ φρόνιμον, ἢ ὡς τῷ  
 35 ἔχειν, καθάπερ ἐπιστήμονος τὸ ἀμετάπειστον ὑπὸ λόγου (οὐδὲν γὰρ ἕτερον ἢ τῷ ἔχειν τι ἔσται ἀ-  
 134 b μετάπειστος ὑπὸ λόγου), ἢ τῷ ἔχεσθαι, καθάπερ ἐπιστήμης τὸ ἀμετάπειστον ὑπὸ λόγου, ἢ τῷ μετέχεσθαι, καθάπερ ζώου τὸ αἰσθάνεσθαι (αἰσθάνεται μὲν γὰρ καὶ ἄλλο τι, οἷον ἄνθρωπος, ἀλλὰ μετέχων<sup>1</sup> ἤδη τούτου<sup>2</sup> αἰσθάνεται), ἢ τῷ μετέχειν,  
 5 καθάπερ τοῦ τινὸς ζώου τὸ ζῆν. μὴ προσθεῖς μὲν οὖν τὸ φύσει ἀμαρτάνει, διότι ἐνδέχεται τὸ φύσει ὑπάρχον μὴ ὑπάρχειν ἐκείνῳ ᾧ φύσει

<sup>1</sup> Reading μετέχων for μετέχον.

<sup>2</sup> Reading τούτου for τοῦτο.

<sup>a</sup> i.e. 'surface' will not be applicable to everything which can be described as 'coloured,' since a body is coloured but is not a surface. 'Body' will not be applicable to everything which can be described as 'coloured,' since a surface is coloured but is not a body.



that which is described in the terms of something else. For example, if one assigns 'coloured' as a property of 'surface,' 'coloured' will also be true of 'body,' but if one assigns it as a property of 'body,' it will also be predicated of 'surface,' so that the name also will not be true of that of which the description is true.<sup>a</sup>

or primarily  
in them-  
selves.]

With some properties it usually happens that an error arises from lack of a definite statement how and of what the property is stated. For everyone attempts to assign as the property of a thing either that which belongs by nature, as 'biped' belongs to man, or that which actually belongs, as 'possessing four fingers' belongs to a particular man, or specifically, as 'consisting of the most subtle particles' belongs to 'fire,' or absolutely, as 'life' belongs to 'living creature,' or in virtue of something else, as 'prudence' belongs to the 'soul,' or primarily, as 'prudence' belongs to the 'faculty of reason,' or owing to something being in a certain state, as 'proof against the persuasion of argument' belongs to the 'scientist' (for it is only because he is in a certain state that he will be 'proof against the persuasion of argument'), or because it is a state possessed by something, as 'proof against the persuasion of argument' belongs to 'science,' or because it is partaken of, as 'sensation' belongs to 'living creature' (for something else also possesses sensation, *e.g.* 'man,' but he does so because he already partakes of 'living creature'), or because it partakes of something, as 'life' belongs to a particular 'living creature.' A man, therefore, errs if he does not add the words 'by nature,' for it is possible for that which belongs by nature not actually to belong to that to

(b) Observe  
whether the  
manner and  
subject of  
the pro-  
perty are  
accurately  
defined.

ὑπάρχει, καθάπερ ἀνθρώπῳ τὸ δύο πόδας ἔχειν.  
 μὴ διορίσας δ' ὅτι τὸ ὑπάρχον ἀποδίδωσιν, ὅτι  
 οὐκ ἔσται τοιοῦτον οἷον νῦν ὑπάρχει ἐκείνῳ,<sup>1</sup> καθά-  
 10 περ τὸ τέτταρας δακτύλους ἔχειν τὸν ἄνθρωπον.  
 μὴ δηλώσας δὲ διότι ὡς πρῶτον ἢ ὡς κατ' ἄλλο  
 τίθησιν, ὅτι οὐ καθ' οὗ ὁ λόγος, καὶ τοῦνομα ἀλη-  
 θεύσεται, καθάπερ τὸ κεχρῶσθαι, εἴτε τῆς ἐπι-  
 φανείας εἴτε τοῦ σώματος ἀποδοθὲν ἴδιον. μὴ  
 προείπας δὲ διότι ἢ τῷ ἔχειν ἢ τῷ ἔχεσθαι τὸ  
 15 ἴδιον ἀποδέδωκε, διότι οὐκ ἔσται ἴδιον· ὑπάρξει  
 γάρ, ἐὰν μὲν τῷ ἔχεσθαι ἀποδιδῷ τὸ ἴδιον, τῷ  
 ἔχοντι, ἐὰν δὲ τῷ ἔχοντι, τῷ ἐχομένῳ, καθάπερ  
 τὸ ἀμετάπειστον ὑπὸ λόγου τῆς ἐπιστήμης ἢ τοῦ  
 ἐπιστήμονος τεθὲν ἴδιον. μὴ προσσημήνας δὲ τῷ  
 μετέχειν ἢ τῷ μετέχεσθαι, ὅτι καὶ ἄλλοις τισὶν  
 20 ὑπάρξει τὸ ἴδιον· ἐὰν μὲν γὰρ τῷ μετέχεσθαι  
 ἀποδῷ, τοῖς μετέχουσιν, ἐὰν δὲ τῷ μετέχειν,  
 τοῖς μετεχομένοις, καθάπερ εἰ τοῦ τινὸς ζώου ἢ  
 τοῦ ζώου τιθείη τὸ ζῆν ἴδιον. μὴ διαστείλας δὲ  
 τὸ τῷ εἶδει, ὅτι ἐνὶ μόνῳ ὑπάρξει τῶν ὑπὸ τοῦτο

<sup>1</sup> Reading ἐκείνῳ for ἐκείνο with Waitz.

which it belongs by nature ; for example, it belongs to man by nature to possess two feet. He also errs if he does not state definitely that he is assigning what actually belongs, because it will not always belong, as it now does, to that particular subject, for example, the man's possession of four fingers. He also errs if he has not made it clear that he is stating it as being primary or as being called as it is in virtue of something else, because then the name also will not be true of that of which the description is true, for example ' coloured ' whether assigned as a property of ' surface ' or of ' body.' He also errs if he has not stated beforehand that he has assigned the property because something is in a certain state or because it is possessed by something as a state ; for then it will not be a property. For if he assigns the property as a state possessed by something, it will belong to that which possesses the state, while, if he assigns it to the possessor of the state, it will belong to the state which is possessed, as ' proof against the persuasion of argument ' when assigned as a property of ' science ' or of the ' scientist.' He also errs if he has not signified in addition that he assigns the property because the subject partakes of, or is partaken of by, something, since then the property will belong to some other things also. For if he assigns it because it is partaken of, it will belong to the things which partake of it, while if he assigns it because the subject partakes of it, it will belong to the things partaken of, for example, if ' life ' be stated to be a property of a particular ' living creature ' or merely of ' living creature.' He also errs if he has not distinguished the property as belonging specifically, because then it will belong to one only of those things which come

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ὄντων οὐ τὸ ἴδιον τίθησι· τὸ γὰρ καθ' ὑπερβολὴν  
 25 ἐνὶ μόνῳ ὑπάρχει, καθάπερ τοῦ πυρὸς τὸ κουφό-  
 τατον. ἐνίοτε δὲ καὶ τὸ τῷ εἶδει προσθεῖς δι-  
 ήμαρτεν. δεήσει γὰρ ἐν εἶδος εἶναι τῶν λεχθέντων  
 ὅταν τὸ τῷ εἶδει προστεθῇ· τοῦτο δ' ἐπ' ἐνίων οὐ  
 συμπίπτει, καθάπερ οὐδ' ἐπὶ τοῦ πυρός. οὐ γάρ  
 ἐστὶν ἐν εἶδος τοῦ πυρός· ἕτερον γάρ ἐστι τῷ εἶδει  
 30 ἄνθραξ καὶ φλόξ καὶ φῶς, ἕκαστον αὐτῶν πῦρ ὄν.  
 διὰ τοῦτο δ' οὐ δεῖ, ὅταν τὸ τῷ<sup>1</sup> εἶδει προστεθῇ,  
 ἕτερον εἶναι εἶδος τοῦ λεχθέντος, ὅτι τοῖς μὲν μάλ-  
 λον τοῖς δ' ἦττον ὑπάρξει τὸ λεχθὲν ἴδιον, καθάπερ  
 ἐπὶ τοῦ πυρὸς τὸ λεπτομερέστατον· λεπτομερέ-  
 στερον γάρ ἐστι τὸ φῶς τοῦ ἄνθρακος καὶ τῆς  
 φλογός. τοῦτο δ' οὐ δεῖ γίνεσθαι, ὅταν μὴ καὶ  
 35 τὸ ὄνομα μᾶλλον κατηγορηται, καθ' οὐ ὁ λόγος  
 μᾶλλον ἀληθεύεται· εἰ δὲ μή, οὐκ ἔσται, καθ' οὐ  
 135 a ὁ λόγος μᾶλλον, καὶ τοῦνομα μᾶλλον. ἔτι δὲ πρὸς  
 τούτοις ταῦτόν εἶναι συμβήσεται τὸ ἴδιον τοῦ τε  
 ἀπλῶς καὶ τοῦ μάλιστα ὄντος ἐν τῷ ἀπλῶς τοιού-  
 του,<sup>2</sup> καθάπερ ἐπὶ τοῦ πυρὸς ἔχει τὸ λεπτομερέ-  
 στατον· καὶ γὰρ τοῦ φωτὸς ἔσται ταῦτό τοῦτο  
 5 ἴδιον· λεπτομερέστατον γάρ ἐστι τὸ φῶς. ἄλλου  
 μὲν οὖν οὕτως ἀποδιδόντος τὸ ἴδιον ἐπιχειρητέον,  
 αὐτῷ δ' οὐ δοτέον ἐστὶ ταύτην τὴν ἔνστασιν, ἀλλ'  
 εὐθὺς τιθέμενον τὸ ἴδιον διοριστέον ὃν τρόπον τί-  
 θησι τὸ ἴδιον.

<sup>1</sup> Reading τὸ τῷ with D.<sup>2</sup> Reading τοιούτου with AB.



under the term of which he is stating the property ; for the superlative degree belongs to one only of them, for example, 'lightest' when used of 'fire.' Sometimes also he has erred even when he has added the word 'specifically' ; for the things mentioned will have to be of one species when 'specifically' is added ; but this does not occur in some cases, for example, in the case of 'fire.' For there is not one species only of fire, since a burning coal, a flame and light are different in species, though each of them is 'fire.' It is necessary when 'specifically' is added that there should not be a species other than that stated, for the reason that the property mentioned will belong to some things in a greater and to others in a less degree, for example 'consisting of the subtlest particles' as applied to 'fire' ; for light consists of subtler particles than a burning coal or a flame. But this ought not to occur unless the name is predicated in a greater degree of that of which the description is true to a greater degree ; otherwise the name will not be truer when applied to that of which the description is truer. Further, besides this, the same thing will happen to be the property both of that which possesses it absolutely and of that which possesses it in the highest degree in that which possesses it absolutely, as in the case of 'consisting of the subtlest particles' when used of 'fire' ; for this same thing will be a property of 'light,' for 'light' 'consists of the subtlest particles.' If, therefore, someone else assigns the property in this manner, one ought to argue against it, but one ought not oneself to give an opening for this objection, but one ought to define in what manner one is stating the property immediately when one is stating it.

- "Επειτ' ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἰ αὐτὸ αὐτοῦ ἴδιον  
 10 ἔθηκεν· οὐ γὰρ ἔσται ἴδιον τὸ κείμενον εἶναι ἴδιον.  
 αὐτὸ γὰρ αὐτοῦ<sup>1</sup> πᾶν τὸ εἶναι δηλοῖ, τὸ δὲ τὸ εἶναι  
 δηλοῦν οὐκ ἴδιον ἀλλ' ὅρος ἐστίν. οἷον ἐπεὶ ὁ  
 εἷπας καλοῦ τὸ πρέπον ἴδιον εἶναι αὐτὸ ἑαυτοῦ  
 ἴδιον ἀπέδωκε (ταῦτόν γὰρ ἐστὶ τὸ καλὸν καὶ  
 πρέπον), οὐκ ἂν εἶη τὸ πρέπον τοῦ καλοῦ ἴδιον.  
 15 κατασκευάζοντα δὲ εἰ μὴ αὐτὸ μὲν αὐτοῦ ἴδιον  
 ἀπέδωκεν, ἀντικατηγορούμενον δ' ἔθηκεν· ἔσται  
 γὰρ ἴδιον τὸ κείμενον μὴ εἶναι ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ  
 ὁ θεὸς ζώου ἴδιον τὸ οὐσία ἔμφυχος οὐκ αὐτὸ μὲν  
 αὐτοῦ ἴδιον ἔθηκεν, ἀντικατηγορούμενον δ' ἀπο-  
 δέδωκεν, εἶη ἂν ἴδιον τοῦ ζώου τὸ οὐσία ἔμφυχος.  
 20 "Επειτ' ἐπὶ τῶν ὁμοιομερῶν σκεπτέον ἐστὶν  
 ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἰ τὸ τοῦ συνόλου ἴδιον μὴ  
 ἀληθεύεται κατὰ τοῦ μέρους, ἢ εἰ τὸ τοῦ μέρους  
 μὴ λέγεται κατὰ τοῦ σύμπαντος· οὐ γὰρ ἔσται  
 ἴδιον τὸ κείμενον ἴδιον εἶναι. συμβαίνει δ' ἐπ'  
 ἐνίων τοῦτο γίνεσθαι· ἀποδοίη γὰρ ἂν τις ἐπὶ τῶν  
 25 ὁμοιομερῶν ἴδιον ἐνίετε μὲν ἐπὶ τὸ σύμπαν βλέψας,  
 ἐνίετε δ' ἐπὶ τὸ κατὰ μέρος λεγόμενον αὐτὸς αὐτὸν  
 ἐπιστήσας· ἔσται δ' οὐδέτερον ὀρθῶς ἀποδοδο-  
 μένον. οἷον ἐπὶ μὲν τοῦ σύμπαντος, ἐπεὶ ὁ εἷπας

<sup>1</sup> Reading αὐτοῦ for αὐτῷ.

Next, for destructive criticism, you must see whether your opponent has stated a thing itself as a property of itself ; for then what is stated to be a property will not be a property. For a thing itself always shows its own essence, and that which shows the essence is not a property but a definition. For example, a man who has said that ' decorous ' is a property of ' beautiful ' has assigned the thing itself as its own property (for ' beautiful ' and ' decorous ' are the same thing), and so ' decorous ' cannot be a property of ' beautiful.' For constructive argument you must see whether, though he has not assigned the thing itself as a property of itself, he has nevertheless stated a convertible predicate ; for then what has been stated not to be the property will be the property. For example, a man who has stated that ' animate substance ' is a property of ' living creature,' though he has not stated that the thing itself is a property of itself, has nevertheless assigned a convertible predicate, and so ' animate substance ' would be a property of ' living creature.'

(c) Observe whether the thing itself is assigned as its own property.

Next, in dealing with things which have like parts, for destructive criticism you must see whether the property of the whole is untrue of the part or if the property of the part is not predicated of the whole ; for then what is stated to be a property will not be a property. This may happen in some cases ; for a man might, in dealing with things which have like parts, assign a property sometimes looking at the whole and sometimes directing his attention to what is predicated of a part ; and so in neither case will the property have been correctly assigned. For example, in the case of the whole, the man who has said that it is a property of ' sea ' to be ' the greatest

(d) Observe whether, in things which consist of similar parts, the property of the whole is untrue of the parts, or that of the parts not predicated of the whole.

135 a

θαλάττης ἴδιον τὸ πλείστον ὕδωρ ἀλμυρὸν ὁμοιο-  
 μεροῦς μὲν τινος ἔθηκε τὸ ἴδιον, τοιοῦτον δ' ἀπ-  
 30 ἔδωκεν ὃ οὐκ ἀληθεύεται κατὰ τοῦ μέρους (οὐ γάρ  
 ἔστιν ἢ τις θάλαττα τὸ πλείστον ὕδωρ ἀλμυρόν),  
 οὐκ ἂν εἴη τῆς θαλάττης ἴδιον τὸ πλείστον ὕδωρ  
 ἀλμυρόν. ἐπὶ δὲ τοῦ μέρους, οἷον ἐπεὶ ὁ θεὸς  
 αἶρος ἴδιον τὸ ἀναπνευστὸν ὁμοιομεροῦς μὲν τινος  
 εἶρηκε τὸ ἴδιον, τοιοῦτον δ' ἀπέδωκεν ὃ κατὰ τοῦ  
 35 τινὸς αἶρος ἀληθεύεται, κατὰ δὲ τοῦ σύμπαντος  
 οὐ λέγεται (οὐ γάρ ἔστιν ὁ σύμπας ἀναπνευστός),

135 b

οὐκ ἂν εἴη τοῦ αἶρος ἴδιον τὸ ἀναπνευστόν. κατα-  
 σκευάζοντα δὲ εἰ ἀληθεύεται μὲν καθ' ἑκάστου  
 τῶν ὁμοιομερῶν, ἔστι δ' ἴδιον αὐτῶν κατὰ τὸ  
 σύμπαν· ἔσται γὰρ ἴδιον τὸ κείμενον μὴ εἶναι ἴδιον.  
 οἷον ἐπεὶ ἀληθεύεται κατὰ πάσης γῆς<sup>1</sup> τὸ κάτω  
 5 φέρεσθαι κατὰ φύσιν, ἔστι δὲ τοῦτο ἴδιον καὶ τῆς  
 τινὸς γῆς κατὰ τὴν γῆν, εἴη ἂν τῆς γῆς ἴδιον τὸ  
 κάτω φέρεσθαι κατὰ φύσιν.

VI. Ἐπειτ' ἐκ τῶν ἀντικειμένων σκεπτέον ἐστὶ  
 πρῶτον μὲν ἐκ τῶν ἐναντίων ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν  
 εἰ τοῦ ἐναντίου μὴ ἔστι τὸ ἐναντίον ἴδιον· οὐδὲ  
 10 γὰρ τοῦ ἐναντίου ἔσται τὸ ἐναντίον ἴδιον. οἷον  
 ἐπεὶ ἐναντίον ἐστὶ δικαιοσύνη μὲν ἀδικία, τῷ  
 βελτίστῳ δὲ τὸ χεῖριστον, οὐκ ἔστι δὲ τῆς δι-  
 καιοσύνης ἴδιον τὸ βέλτιστον, οὐκ ἂν εἴη τῆς  
 ἀδικίας ἴδιον τὸ χεῖριστον. κατασκευάζοντα δὲ εἰ

<sup>1</sup> Omitting τῆς before γῆς with Waitz.



mass of salt-water ' has stated the property of something which has like parts, but he has assigned an attribute of such a kind that it is not true of the part (for a particular sea is not ' the greatest mass of salt-water '), and so ' the greatest mass of salt-water ' could not be a property of ' sea. ' So too in the case of the part ; for example, the man who has stated that ' respirable ' is a property of ' air ' has asserted the property of something which has like parts, but has assigned an attribute of such a kind that it is true of some air but is not predicable of the whole (for the whole air is not respirable), and so ' respirable ' could not be a property of the air. For constructive argument, on the other hand, you must see whether, while it is true of each of the things which have like parts, it is a property of them taken as a whole ; for then what is stated not to be a property will be a property. For example, while it is true of all earth that it is carried naturally downwards, and this is also a property of a certain portion of earth as forming part of ' the earth, ' it would be a property of ' earth ' ' to be carried naturally downwards. '

VI. Next, you must examine on the basis of opposites and, in the first place, of *contraries* and, for destructive criticism, see whether the contrary of the term fails to be a property of the contrary subject ; for then neither will the contrary of the former be a property of the contrary of the latter. For example, since injustice is contrary to justice, and the greatest evil is contrary to the greatest good, but it is not a property of ' justice ' to be ' the greatest good, ' then the ' greatest evil ' would not be a property of ' injustice. ' For constructive argument, on the other hand, you must see whether the contrary is a pro-

*Rules  
drawn from  
different  
modes of  
opposition :  
(1) Con-  
trary op-  
position.*

35 b

τοῦ ἐναντίου τὸ ἐναντίον ἴδιόν ἐστιν· καὶ γὰρ τοῦ  
ἐναντίου τὸ ἐναντίον ἴδιον ἔσται. οἷον ἐπεὶ ἐναντίον  
15 ἐστὶν ἀγαθῷ μὲν κακόν, αἰρετῷ δὲ φευκτόν, ἔστι  
δὲ τοῦ ἀγαθοῦ ἴδιον τὸ αἰρετόν, εἴη ἂν κακοῦ ἴδιον  
τὸ φευκτόν.

Δεύτερον δ' ἐκ τῶν πρὸς τι ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν  
εἰ τὸ πρὸς τι τοῦ πρὸς τι μὴ ἐστὶν ἴδιον· οὐδὲ γὰρ  
τὸ πρὸς τι τοῦ πρὸς τι ἔσται ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ  
20 λέγεται διπλάσιον μὲν πρὸς ἡμισυ, ὑπερέχον δὲ  
πρὸς ὑπερεχόμενον, οὐκ ἔστι δὲ τοῦ διπλασίου  
τὸ ὑπερέχον ἴδιον, οὐκ ἂν εἴη τοῦ ἡμίσεος τὸ  
ὑπερεχόμενον ἴδιον. κατασκευάζοντα δὲ εἰ τοῦ  
πρὸς τι τὸ πρὸς τί ἐστὶν ἴδιον· καὶ γὰρ τοῦ πρὸς  
τι τὸ πρὸς τι ἔσται ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ λέγεται τὸ  
25 μὲν διπλάσιον πρὸς τὸ ἡμισυ, τὸ δὲ δύο πρὸς ἓν  
〈πρὸς τὸ ἓν πρὸς δύο〉,<sup>1</sup> ἔστι δὲ τοῦ διπλασίου ἴδιον  
τὸ ὡς δύο πρὸς ἓν, εἴη ἂν τοῦ ἡμίσεος ἴδιον τὸ ὡς  
ἓν πρὸς δύο.

Τρίτον ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἰ τῆς ἕξεως τὸ καθ'  
ἕξιν λεγόμενον μὴ ἐστὶν ἴδιον· οὐδὲ γὰρ τῆς στέρη-  
σεως τὸ κατὰ στέρησιν λεγόμενον ἔσται ἴδιον. καὶ  
30 εἰ δὲ τῆς στέρησεως τὸ κατὰ στέρησιν λεγόμενον  
μὴ ἐστὶν ἴδιον, οὐδὲ τῆς ἕξεως τὸ κατὰ τὴν ἕξιν

<sup>1</sup> Reading with Strache-Wallies τὸ δὲ δύο πρὸς ἓν 〈πρὸς τὸ ἓν  
πρὸς δύο〉, ἔστι.

perty of the contrary ; for then the contrary too of the former will be a property of the contrary of the latter. For example, since 'evil' is contrary to 'good' and 'object of avoidance' contrary to 'object of choice,' and 'object of choice' is a property of 'good,' 'object of avoidance' would be a property of 'evil.'

Secondly, you must examine on the basis of *relative opposites*, and see, for destructive criticism, whether one correlative of the term fails to be the property of the correlatives of the subject ; for then neither will the correlative of the former be a property of the correlative of the latter. For example, 'double' is described as relative to 'half,' and 'exceeding' to 'exceeded,' but 'exceeding' is not a property of 'double,' and so 'exceeded' could not be a property of 'half.' For constructive argument on the other hand you must see whether the correlative of the property is a property of the correlative of the subject ; for then too the correlative of the former will be a property of the correlative of the latter. For example, 'double' is described as relative to 'half,' and the proportion 2 : 1 as relative to the proportion 1 : 2, and it is a property of 'double' to be in the proportion of 2 : 1 ; it would, therefore, be a property of 'half' to be in the proportion of 1 : 2.

Thirdly, for destructive criticism, you must see whether what is described in the terms of a state (A) is not a property of the state (B), for then neither will what is described in the terms of the privation (of A) be a property of the privation (of B). Also, if what is described in the terms of a privation (of A) is not a property of the privation (of B), neither will what is described in the terms of the state (A) be a

(2) Relative opposition.

(3) The opposition of a state and its privation.

135 b

λεγόμενον ἴδιον ἔσται. οἷον ἐπεὶ οὐ λέγεται τῆς κωφότητος ἴδιον τὸ ἀναισθησίαν εἶναι, οὐδ' ἂν τῆς ἀκούσεως εἶη ἴδιον τὸ αἰσθῆσιν εἶναι. κατασκευάζοντα δὲ εἰ τὸ καθ' ἕξιν λεγόμενόν ἐστι τῆς

35 ἕξεως ἴδιον· καὶ γὰρ τῆς στέρησεως τὸ κατὰ στέρησιν λεγόμενον ἔσται ἴδιον. καὶ εἰ τῆς στέρησεως τὸ κατὰ στέρησιν λεγόμενον ἔστιν ἴδιον,

136 a καὶ τῆς ἕξεως τὸ καθ' ἕξιν λεγόμενον ἔσται ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ τῆς ὄψεώς ἐστιν ἴδιον τὸ βλέπειν, καθὸ ἔχομεν ὄψιν, εἶη ἂν τῆς τυφλότητος ἴδιον τὸ μὴ βλέπειν, καθὸ οὐκ ἔχομεν ὄψιν πεφυκότες ἔχειν.

5 Ἐπειτα ἐκ τῶν φάσεων καὶ τῶν ἀποφάσεων, πρῶτον μὲν ἐξ αὐτῶν τῶν κατηγορουμένων. ἔστι δ' ὁ τόπος οὗτος χρήσιμος ἀνασκευάζοντι μόνον. οἷον εἰ ἡ φάσις ἢ τὸ κατὰ τὴν φάσιν λεγόμενον αὐτοῦ ἴδιόν ἐστιν· οὐ γὰρ ἔσται αὐτοῦ ἡ ἀπόφασις οὐδὲ τὸ κατὰ τὴν ἀπόφασιν λεγόμενον ἴδιον. καὶ

10 εἰ δ' ἡ ἀπόφασις ἢ τὸ κατὰ τὴν ἀπόφασιν λεγόμενόν ἐστιν αὐτοῦ ἴδιον, οὐκ ἔσται ἡ φάσις οὐδὲ τὸ κατὰ τὴν φάσιν λεγόμενον ἴδιον· οἷον ἐπεὶ τοῦ ζώου ἐστὶν ἴδιον τὸ ἔμψυχον, οὐκ ἂν εἶη τοῦ ζώου ἴδιον τὸ οὐκ ἔμψυχον.

Δεύτερον δ' ἐκ τῶν κατηγορουμένων ἢ μὴ  
15 κατηγορουμένων, καὶ καθ' ὧν κατηγορεῖται ἢ μὴ κατηγορεῖται, ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἰ ἡ φάσις τῆς

<sup>a</sup> It is not a property of deafness, because it can also be predicated of, for example, blindness.



property of the state (B). For example, since 'absence of sensation' is not predicated as a property of deafness,<sup>a</sup> neither would 'sensation' be a property of 'hearing.' For constructive argument, on the other hand, you must see whether what is described in the terms of a state (A) is a property of the state (B); for then what is described in the terms of a privation (of A) will be a property of the privation (of B). And, again, if what is described in the terms of a privation (of A) is a property of the privation (of B), then, too, what is described in the term of the state (A) will be a property of the state (B). For example, since 'to see' is a property of 'vision,' in as far as we possess 'vision,' 'inability to see' would be a property of 'blindness,' in as much as we do not possess vision, though it is our nature to possess it.

Next, you must argue from affirmations and negation, and first from the predicates themselves. This commonplace is useful only for destructive criticism. For example, you must see whether the affirmation or the attribute predicated affirmatively is a property of the subject; for then neither the negation nor the attribute predicated negatively will be a property of the subject. Also, if the negation or the attribute predicated negatively is a property of the subject, then neither the affirmation nor the attribute predicated affirmatively will be a property of the subject. For example, since 'animate' is a property of 'living creature,' 'not animate' could not be a property of it.

Secondly, you must argue from the things which are predicated or not predicated and from the subjects of which they are or are not predicated, and, for destructive criticism, see whether the affirmative

(4) Contradictory opposition applied to predicates only.

(5) Contradictory opposition applied both to predicates

φάσεως μή ἐστὶν ἴδιον· οὐδὲ γὰρ ἡ ἀπόφασις τῆς  
 ἀποφάσεως ἔσται ἴδιον. καὶ εἰ δ' ἡ ἀπόφασις  
 τῆς ἀποφάσεως μή ἐστὶν ἴδιον, οὐδ' ἡ φάσις τῆς  
 φάσεως ἔσται ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ οὐκ ἔστι τοῦ ἀν-  
 20 θρώπου ἴδιον τὸ ζῶον, οὐδ' ἂν τοῦ μὴ ἀνθρώ-  
 που εἶη ἴδιον τὸ μὴ ζῶον. καὶ εἰ δὲ τοῦ μὴ  
 ἀνθρώπου φαίνεται μὴ ἴδιον τὸ μὴ ζῶον, οὐδὲ τοῦ  
 ἀνθρώπου ἔσται ἴδιον τὸ ζῶον. κατασκευάζοντα δ'  
 εἰ τῆς φάσεως ἡ φάσις ἐστὶν ἴδιον· καὶ γὰρ τῆς  
 ἀποφάσεως ἡ ἀπόφασις ἔσται ἴδιον. καὶ εἰ δὲ  
 25 τῆς ἀποφάσεως ἡ ἀπόφασις ἐστὶν ἴδιον, καὶ ἡ  
 φάσις τῆς φάσεως ἔσται ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ τοῦ μὴ  
 ζώου ἴδιόν ἐστι τὸ μὴ ζῆν, εἶη ἂν τοῦ ζώου ἴδιον  
 τὸ ζῆν· καὶ εἰ δὲ τοῦ ζώου φαίνεται ἴδιον τὸ ζῆν,  
 καὶ τοῦ μὴ ζώου φανεῖται ἴδιον τὸ μὴ ζῆν.

Τρίτον δὲ ἐξ αὐτῶν τῶν ὑποκειμένων ἀνασκευ-  
 30 ἀζοντα μὲν εἰ τὸ ἀποδοδεομένον ἴδιον τῆς φάσεως  
 ἐστὶν ἴδιον· οὐ γὰρ ἔσται τὸ αὐτὸ καὶ τῆς ἀπο-  
 φάσεως ἴδιον. καὶ εἰ δὲ τῆς ἀποφάσεως ἴδιον τὸ  
 ἀποδοθέν, οὐκ ἔσται τῆς φάσεως ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ  
 τοῦ ζώου ἴδιον τὸ ἔμψυχον, οὐκ ἂν εἶη τοῦ μὴ  
 ζώου ἴδιον τὸ ἔμψυχον. κατασκευάζοντα δὲ εἰ τὸ

predicate is not a property of the affirmative subject ; and sub-  
 for then neither will the negative predicate be a pro-  
 perty of the negative subject. Also if the negative pre-  
 predicate fails to be a property of the negative subject,  
 neither will the affirmative predicate be a property  
 of the affirmative subject. For example, since ' living  
 creature ' is not a property of ' man,' neither could  
 ' not-living-creature ' be a property of ' not-man.'  
 Again, if ' not-living-creature ' appears not to be a  
 property of ' not-man,' neither will ' living creature '  
 be a property of ' man.' For constructive argument,  
 on the other hand, you must see whether the affirma-  
 tive predicate is a property of the affirmative subject ;  
 for then, too, the negative predicate will be a pro-  
 perty of the negative subject. And if the negative  
 predicate is a property of the negative subject, the  
 affirmative predicate also will be a property of the  
 affirmative subject. For example, since ' not to live '  
 is a property of a ' not-living-creature,' ' to live '  
 would be a property of ' living-creature,' and, if ' to  
 live ' appears to be a property of ' living-creature,'  
 ' not-to-live ' will appear to be a property of ' not-  
 living-creature.'

Thirdly, you must argue from the subjects them-  
 selves and, for destructive criticism, see whether the  
 property assigned is a property of the affirmative  
 subject ; for then the same thing will not be a pro-  
 perty of the negative subject also. And if the pro-  
 perty assigned is a property of the negative subject,  
 it will not be a property of the affirmative subject.  
 For example, since ' animate ' is a property of ' living-  
 creature,' ' animate ' could not be a property of ' not-  
 living-creature.' For constructive argument, you  
 must see whether the property assigned fails to be a

(6) Con-  
 tradictory  
 opposition  
 applied to  
 subjects  
 only.

136 a

- 35 ἀποδοθὲν μὴ τῆς φάσεως ἴδιον· (εἰ γὰρ μὴ τῆς φάσεως, ἴδιον)<sup>1</sup> εἴη ἂν τῆς ἀποφάσεως. οὗτος δ' ὁ τόπος ψευδῆς ἐστίν· φάσις γὰρ ἀποφάσεως καὶ ἀπόφασις φάσεως οὐκ ἐστίν ἴδιον. φάσις μὲν  
136 b γὰρ ἀποφάσει οὐδ' ὅλως ὑπάρχει, ἀπόφασις δὲ φάσει ὑπάρχει μὲν, οὐχ ὥς ἴδιον δὲ ὑπάρχει.

"Ἐπειτα δ' ἐκ τῶν ἀντιδιηρημένων ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἰ τῶν ἀντιδιηρημένων μηδὲν μηδενὸς τῶν  
5 λοιπῶν ἀντιδιηρημένων ἐστίν ἴδιον· οὐδὲ γὰρ τὸ κείμενον ἔσται ἴδιον τούτου οὐ κείται ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ ζῶον αἰσθητὸν οὐδενὸς τῶν ἄλλων<sup>2</sup> ζῶων ἐστίν ἴδιον, οὐκ ἂν εἴη τὸ ζῶον νοητὸν τοῦ θεοῦ ἴδιον. κατασκευάζοντα δ' εἰ τῶν λοιπῶν τῶν ἀντιδιηρημένων ὅτιοῦν ἐστίν ἴδιον τούτων ἐκάστου  
10 τῶν ἀντιδιηρημένων· καὶ γὰρ τὸ λοιπὸν ἔσται τούτου ἴδιον, οὐ κείται μὴ εἶναι ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ φρονήσεως ἐστίν ἴδιον τὸ καθ' αὐτὸ πεφυκέναι λογιστικοῦ ἀρετὴν εἶναι, καὶ τῶν ἄλλων ἀρετῶν οὕτως ἐκάστης λαμβανομένης, εἴη ἂν σωφροσύνης ἴδιον τὸ καθ' αὐτὸ πεφυκέναι ἐπιθυμητικοῦ ἀρετὴν εἶναι.

- 15 VII. "Ἐπειτ' ἐκ τῶν πτώσεων, ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἰ ἡ πτώσις τῆς πτώσεως μὴ ἐστίν ἴδιον· οὐδὲ γὰρ ἡ πτώσις τῆς πτώσεως ἔσται ἴδιον. οἷον

<sup>1</sup> εἰ γὰρ μὴ τῆς φάσεως, ἴδιον add. Wallies.

<sup>2</sup> Omitting θνητῶν with B<sup>2</sup>DP.

<sup>a</sup> A B C D are members of one division which have corresponding predicates *a b c d*. If any one of *b, c* or *d* is a property of any one of B, C or D other than that to which it corresponds, then *a* cannot be a property of A.

<sup>b</sup> It has been alleged that *a* is not a property of A; but, if *b, c* and *d* are properties respectively of B, C and D, then *a* must be a property of A.



property of the affirmative subject ; for, if it is not a property of the affirmative subject, it would be a property of the negative subject. But this commonplace is misleading ; for an affirmative term is not a property of a negative subject, nor a negative term of a positive subject ; for an affirmative term does not belong to a negative subject at all, while a negative term does belong to an affirmative subject, but not as a property.

Next, you can take the opposite members of corresponding divisions and see, for destructive criticism, whether no member of one division is a property of any opposite member of the other division ; for then neither will the term stated be a property of that of which it is stated to be a property.<sup>a</sup> For example, since 'sensible living creature' is a property of none of the other living creatures, 'intelligible living creature' could not be a property of God. For constructive argument, on the other hand, you must see whether any one of the other opposite members is a property of each of the opposite members ; for then the remaining one too will be a property of that of which it has been stated not to be a property.<sup>b</sup> For example, since it is a property of 'prudence' to be 'in itself naturally the virtue of the reasoning faculty,' then, if each of the other virtues is treated similarly, it would be the property of 'temperance' to be 'in itself naturally the virtue of the appetitive faculty.'

*Rules  
drawn from  
the co-  
ordinate  
members of  
a division.*

VII. Next, you can take the inflexions and see, for destructive criticism, whether one inflexion fails to be a property of another inflexion ; for then neither will one changed inflexion be a property of the other changed inflexion. For example, since

*Rules  
drawn (a)  
from in-  
flections.*

ἐπεὶ οὐκ ἔστι τοῦ δικαίως ἴδιον τὸ καλῶς, οὐδ' ἂν τοῦ δικαίου εἴη ἴδιον τὸ καλόν. κατασκευάζοντα δὲ εἰ ἢ πτώσις τῆς πτώσεως ἔστιν ἴδιον· καὶ γὰρ  
 20 ἢ πτώσις τῆς πτώσεως ἔσται ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἔστιν ἴδιον τὸ πεζὸν δίπουν, καὶ τῷ ἀνθρώπῳ εἴη ἂν ἴδιον τὸ πεζῷ δίποδι λέγεσθαι. οὐ μόνον δ' ἐπ' αὐτοῦ τοῦ εἰρημένου κατὰ τὰς πτώσεις ἔστι σκεπτέον, ἀλλὰ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἀντικειμένων, καθάπερ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν πρότερον τόπων  
 25 εἴρηται, ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἰ ἢ τοῦ ἀντικειμένου πτώσις μὴ ἔστιν ἴδιον τῆς τοῦ ἀντικειμένου πτώσεως· οὐδὲ γὰρ ἢ τοῦ ἀντικειμένου πτώσις ἔσται ἴδιον τῆς τοῦ ἀντικειμένου πτώσεως. οἷον ἐπεὶ οὐκ ἔστι τοῦ δικαίως ἴδιον τὸ ἀγαθῶς, οὐδ' ἂν τοῦ ἀδίκως εἴη ἴδιον τὸ κακῶς. κατασκευάζοντα δὲ εἰ ἢ τοῦ ἀντικειμένου πτώσις ἔστιν ἴδιον τῆς  
 30 τοῦ ἀντικειμένου πτώσεως· καὶ γὰρ ἢ τοῦ ἀντικειμένου πτώσις ἔσται ἴδιον τῆς τοῦ ἀντικειμένου πτώσεως. οἷον ἐπεὶ τοῦ ἀγαθοῦ ἔστιν ἴδιον τὸ βέλτιστον, καὶ τοῦ κακοῦ ἂν εἴη ἴδιον τὸ χείριστον.

Ἔπειτ' ἐκ τῶν ὁμοίως ἐχόντων, ἀνασκευάζοντα  
 35 μὲν εἰ τὸ ὁμοίως ἔχον τοῦ ὁμοίως ἔχοντος μὴ ἔστιν ἴδιον· οὐδὲ γὰρ τὸ ὁμοίως ἔχον τοῦ ὁμοίως ἔχοντος ἔσται ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ ὁμοίως ἔχει ὁ οἰκοδόμος πρὸς τὸ ποιεῖν οἰκίαν καὶ ὁ ἰατρός πρὸς

<sup>a</sup> The datives here used cannot be satisfactorily rendered in English. They can be expressed in Latin; Pacius renders: '*homini proprium est dici pedestri bipedi.*'

<sup>b</sup> Cf. 114 b 6 ff.

'honourably' is not a property of 'justly,' neither could 'honourable' be a property of 'just.' For constructive argument, you must see whether one inflexion is a property of the other inflexion ; for then one changed inflexion will be a property of the other changed inflexion. For example, since 'pedestrian biped' is a property of 'man,' the description 'of pedestrian biped' would be the property 'of man.'<sup>a</sup> You must examine the inflexions not only in the actual term assigned but also in its opposites, as has been said in the earlier commonplaces also,<sup>b</sup> and, for destructive criticism, see whether the inflexion of one opposite fails to be a property of the inflexion of the other opposite ; for then neither will the changed inflexion of one opposite be a property of the changed inflexion of the other opposite. For example, since 'well' is not a property of 'justly,' neither could 'badly' be a property of 'unjustly.' For constructive argument, you must see whether the inflexion of one opposite is a property of the inflexion of the other opposite ; for then the changed inflexion of one opposite will be also a property of the changed inflexion of the other opposite. For example, since 'best' is a property of 'the good,' 'worst' also would be a property of 'the bad.'

Next, you must argue from things which stand in a similar relation, and, for destructive criticism, see whether an attribute which is similarly related fails to be a property of the similarly related subject ; for then neither will that which is related like the former be a property of that which is related like the latter. For example, since the builder stands in a similar relation for the production of a house to that in which the doctor stands for the production of

(b) From relations like the relation asserted to be a property.

136 b

τὸ ποιεῖν ὑγίειαν, οὐκ ἔστι δὲ ἰατροῦ ἴδιον τὸ ποι-  
 137 a εἶν ὑγίειαν, οὐκ ἂν εἴη οἰκοδόμου ἴδιον τὸ ποιεῖν  
 οἰκίαν. κατασκευάζοντα δὲ εἰ τὸ ὁμοίως ἔχον τοῦ  
 ὁμοίως ἔχοντός ἐστιν ἴδιον· καὶ γὰρ τὸ ὁμοίως  
 ἔχον τοῦ ὁμοίως ἔχοντος ἔσται ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ  
 ὁμοίως ἔχει ἰατρός τε πρὸς τὸ ποιητικὸς ὑγείας  
 5 εἶναι καὶ γυμναστῆς πρὸς τὸ ποιητικὸς εὐεξίας, ἔστι  
 δ' ἴδιον γυμναστοῦ τὸ ποιητικὸν εἶναι εὐεξίας, εἴη  
 ἂν ἴδιον ἰατροῦ τὸ ποιητικὸν εἶναι ὑγείας.

"Ἐπειτ' ἐκ τῶν ὡσαύτως ἐχόντων, ἀνασκευάζοντα  
 μὲν εἰ τὸ ὡσαύτως ἔχον τοῦ ὡσαύτως ἔχοντος μή  
 10 ἔστιν ἴδιον· οὐδὲ γὰρ τὸ ὡσαύτως ἔχον τοῦ ὡσαύ-  
 τως ἔχοντος ἔσται ἴδιον. εἰ δ' ἔστι τοῦ ὡσαύτως  
 ἔχοντος τὸ ὡσαύτως ἔχον ἴδιον, τούτου οὐκ ἔσται  
 ἴδιον οὐ κείται εἶναι ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ ὡσαύτως  
 ἔχει φρόνησις πρὸς τὸ καλὸν καὶ τὸ αἰσχροὺν τῷ  
 ἐπιστήμῃ ἐκατέρου αὐτῶν εἶναι, οὐκ ἔστι δ' ἴδιον  
 15 φρονήσεως τὸ ἐπιστήμην εἶναι καλοῦ, οὐκ ἂν εἴη  
 ἴδιον φρονήσεως τὸ ἐπιστήμην εἶναι αἰσχροῦ. εἰ  
 δ' ἔστιν ἴδιον φρονήσεως τὸ ἐπιστήμην εἶναι κα-  
 λοῦ, οὐκ ἂν εἴη ἴδιον αὐτῆς τὸ ἐπιστήμην εἶναι  
 αἰσχροῦ· ἀδύνατον γὰρ εἶναι τὸ αὐτὸ πλειόνων ἴδιον.  
 κατασκευάζοντι δὲ οὐδὲν οὗτος ὁ τόπος ἐστὶ χρή-  
 20 σιμος· τὸ γὰρ ὡσαύτως ἔχον ἐν πρὸς πλείω συγ-  
 κρίνεται.

<sup>a</sup> Let *a* and *b* be identically related to *A*; if *A* is not a property of *a*, neither will it be a property of *b*.

<sup>b</sup> If *A* is a property of *a*, it cannot be a property of *b*, because the same thing cannot be a property of more than one subject.



health, but it is not a property of a doctor to produce health, it would not be a property of a builder to produce a house. For constructive argument, you must see whether a similarly related attribute is a property of the similarly related subject ; for then an attribute which is related like the former will be a property of a subject which is related like the latter. For example, since a doctor stands in a similar relation as productive of health to that in which a trainer stands as productive of good condition, and it is a property of the trainer to be productive of good condition, it would be a property of the doctor to be productive of health.

Next, you must argue from things which stand in identical relations and see, for destructive criticism, whether what is identically related to two things fails to be a property of one of these things, for then it will not be the property of the other either <sup>a</sup> ; but if what is identically related to two things is a property of one of them, it will not be a property of that of which it is stated to be a property.<sup>b</sup> For example, since prudence is identically related to the honourable and the disgraceful, since it is a knowledge of each of them, and it is not a property of prudence to be a knowledge of the honourable, it would not be a property of prudence to be a knowledge of the disgraceful. But if a knowledge of the honourable is a property of prudence, a knowledge of the disgraceful could not be a property of prudence ; for it is impossible for the same thing to be a property of more than one thing. For constructive argument this commonplace is of no use ; for what is identically related is one thing brought into comparison with more than one thing.

(c) From identity of relations between the property and two subjects.

137 a

Ἐπειτ' ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἰ τὸ κατὰ τὸ εἶναι  
 λεγόμενον μὴ ἔστι τοῦ κατὰ τὸ εἶναι λεγομένου  
 ἴδιον· οὐδὲ γὰρ τὸ φθείρεσθαι τοῦ κατὰ τὸ φθεί-  
 ρεσθαι, οὐδὲ τὸ γίνεσθαι τοῦ κατὰ τὸ γίνεσθαι  
 λεγομένου ἔσται ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ οὐκ ἔστιν ἀν-  
 25 θρώπου ἴδιον τὸ εἶναι ζῶον, οὐδ' ἂν τοῦ ἀνθρώπου  
 γίνεσθαι εἴη ἴδιον τὸ γίνεσθαι ζῶον· οὐδ' ἂν τοῦ  
 ἀνθρώπου φθείρεσθαι εἴη ἴδιον τὸ φθείρεσθαι ζῶον.  
 τὸν αὐτὸν δὲ τρόπον ληπτέον ἔστι καὶ ἐκ τοῦ  
 γίνεσθαι πρὸς τὸ εἶναι καὶ φθείρεσθαι καὶ ἐκ τοῦ  
 φθείρεσθαι πρὸς τὸ εἶναι καὶ πρὸς τὸ γίνεσθαι,  
 30 καθάπερ εἴρηται νῦν ἐκ τοῦ εἶναι πρὸς τὸ γίνεσθαι  
 καὶ φθείρεσθαι. κατασκευάζοντα δὲ εἰ τοῦ κατὰ  
 τὸ εἶναι τεταγμένου ἔστι τὸ κατ' αὐτὸ τεταγμένον  
 ἴδιον· καὶ γὰρ τοῦ κατὰ τὸ γίνεσθαι λεγομένου  
 ἔσται τὸ κατὰ τὸ γίνεσθαι λεγόμενον ἴδιον καὶ  
 τοῦ κατὰ τὸ φθείρεσθαι τὸ κατὰ τοῦτο ἀποδιδό-  
 35 μενον. οἷον ἐπεὶ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἔστιν ἴδιον τὸ  
 εἶναι βροτόν, καὶ τοῦ γίνεσθαι ἀνθρώπου εἴη ἂν  
 ἴδιον τὸ γίνεσθαι βροτόν καὶ τοῦ φθείρεσθαι  
 ἀνθρώπου τὸ φθείρεσθαι βροτόν. τὸν αὐτὸν δὲ  
 137 b τρόπον ληπτέον ἔστι καὶ ἐκ τοῦ γίνεσθαι καὶ  
 φθείρεσθαι πρὸς τε τὸ εἶναι καὶ πρὸς τὰ ἐξ αὐτῶν,  
 καθάπερ καὶ ἀνασκευάζοντι εἴρηται.

Ἐπειτ' ἐπιβλέπειν ἐπὶ τὴν ἰδέαν τοῦ κειμένου,

Next, for destructive criticism, you must see whether the predicate which is said 'to be' is *not* a property of the subject which is said 'to be'; for then neither will the predicate which is said 'to be destroyed' be a property of the subject which is said 'to be destroyed,' nor will the predicate which is said 'to be becoming' be a property of the subject which is said 'to be becoming.' For example, since it is not the property of man to be an animal, neither could 'becoming an animal' be a property of 'becoming a man'; nor could the 'destruction of an animal' be a property of the 'destruction of a man.' In the same way you must make the assumption from 'becoming' to 'being' and 'being destroyed,' and from 'being destroyed' to 'being' and 'becoming,' by the process of argument just described from 'being' to 'becoming' and 'being destroyed.' For constructive argument, on the other hand, you must see whether the predicate which is laid down as 'being' is a property of the subject laid down as 'being'; for then also the predicate which is described as 'becoming' will be a property of the subject which is described as 'becoming,' and the predicate assigned in virtue of destruction will be a property of the subject which is said to 'be destroyed.' For example, since it is a property of man to be mortal, 'becoming mortal' would be a property of 'becoming a man,' and the 'destruction of a mortal' would be a property of the 'destruction of a man.' In the same way you must make the assumption also from 'becoming' and 'being destroyed' to 'being' and to the other consequences which are derived from them, as was described for destructive criticism.

(d) From the processes of coming into being and destruction.

Next you must look at the idea of that which is

(e) From reference of

ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἰ τῇ ἰδέᾳ μὴ ὑπάρχει, ἢ εἰ  
 5 μὴ κατὰ τοῦτο καθ' ὃ λέγεται τοῦτο οὐ τὸ ἴδιον  
 ἀπεδόθη· οὐ γὰρ ἔσται ἴδιον τὸ κείμενον εἶναι  
 ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ αὐτοανθρώπῳ οὐχ ὑπάρχει τὸ  
 ἡρεμεῖν, ἢ ἄνθρωπός ἐστιν, ἀλλ' ἢ ἰδέα, οὐκ ἂν  
 εἴη ἀνθρώπου ἴδιον τὸ ἡρεμεῖν. κατασκευάζοντα  
 δὲ εἰ τῇ ἰδέᾳ ὑπάρχει, καὶ κατὰ τοῦτο ὑπάρχει,  
 10 ἢ λέγεται κατ' αὐτοῦ ἐκεῖνο οὐ κεῖται μὴ εἶναι  
 ἴδιον· ἔσται γὰρ ἴδιον τὸ κείμενον μὴ εἶναι ἴδιον.  
 οἷον ἐπεὶ ὑπάρχει τῷ αὐτοζώῳ τὸ ἐκ ψυχῆς καὶ  
 σώματος συγκεῖσθαι, καὶ ἢ ζῶον αὐτῷ ὑπάρχει  
 τοῦτο, εἴη ἂν ζώου ἴδιον τὸ ἐκ ψυχῆς καὶ σώματος  
 συγκεῖσθαι.

VIII. Ἐπειτα ἐκ τοῦ μᾶλλον καὶ ἥττον, πρῶτον  
 15 μὲν ἀνασκευάζοντα εἰ τὸ μᾶλλον τοῦ μᾶλλον μὴ  
 ἐστὶν ἴδιον· οὐδὲ γὰρ τὸ ἥττον τοῦ ἥττον ἔσται  
 ἴδιον, οὐδὲ τὸ ἥκιστα τοῦ ἥκιστα, οὐδὲ τὸ μάλιστα  
 τοῦ μάλιστα, οὐδὲ τὸ ἀπλῶς τοῦ ἀπλῶς. οἷον ἐπεὶ  
 οὐκ ἔστι τὸ μᾶλλον κεχρῶσθαι τοῦ μᾶλλον σώ-  
 ματος ἴδιον, οὐδὲ τὸ ἥττον κεχρῶσθαι τοῦ ἥττον  
 20 σώματος εἴη ἂν ἴδιον, οὐδὲ τὸ κεχρῶσθαι σώματος  
 ὅλως. κατασκευάζοντα δὲ εἰ τὸ μᾶλλον τοῦ  
 μᾶλλον ἐστὶν ἴδιον· καὶ γὰρ τὸ ἥττον τοῦ ἥττον



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stated, and, for destructive criticism, see whether the property fails to belong to the idea, or whether it fails to belong in virtue of that which causes that of which the property was assigned to be so described; for then what was stated to be a property will not be a property. For example, since 'being at rest' does not belong to 'man-himself' as 'man' but as 'idea,' 'to be at rest' could not be a property of 'man.' For constructive argument, you must see whether the property belongs to the idea and belongs to it in virtue of this, namely, in as much as that is predicated of it of which it is stated not to be a property; for then what was stated to be a property will not be a property. For example, since it belongs to 'animal-itself' to be composed of soul and body and it belongs to it as animal, to be composed of soul and body would be a property of 'animal.'

*the property asserted to the 'idea' of the subject.*

VIII. Next, you can argue from the greater and less degrees and, first of all, for destructive criticism, see whether the greater degree of the predicate fails to be a property of the greater degree of subject; for then neither will the less degree of the predicate be a property of the less degree of the subject, nor the least degree of the least degree, nor the greatest degree of the greatest degree, nor the predicate simply of the subject simply. For example, since to be more coloured is not a property of what is more a body, neither would to be less coloured be a property of what is less a body, nor would colour be a property of body at all. For constructive argument, on the other hand, you must see whether a greater degree of the predicate is a property of a greater degree of the subject; for then a less degree of the predicate will be a property of a less degree of

*Rules drawn (a) from the greater and less degrees.*

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ἔσται ἴδιον, καὶ τὸ ἥκιστα τοῦ ἥκιστα, καὶ τὸ  
 μάλιστα τοῦ μάλιστα, καὶ τὸ ἀπλῶς τοῦ ἀπλῶς.  
 οἷον ἐπεὶ τοῦ μᾶλλον ζῶντος τὸ μᾶλλον αἰσθά-  
 25 νεσθαί ἐστιν ἴδιον, καὶ τοῦ ἥττον ζῶντος τὸ ἥττον  
 αἰσθάνεσθαι εἶη ἂν ἴδιον, καὶ τοῦ μάλιστα δὲ τὸ  
 μάλιστα, καὶ τοῦ ἥκιστα τὸ ἥκιστα, καὶ τοῦ  
 ἀπλῶς τὸ ἀπλῶς.

Καὶ ἐκ τοῦ ἀπλῶς δὲ πρὸς ταῦτα σκεπτέον  
 ἐστὶν ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἰ τὸ ἀπλῶς τοῦ ἀπλῶς  
 30 μὴ ἐστὶν ἴδιον· οὐδὲ γὰρ τὸ μᾶλλον τοῦ μᾶλλον,  
 οὐδὲ τὸ ἥττον τοῦ ἥττον, οὐδὲ τὸ μάλιστα τοῦ  
 μάλιστα, οὐδὲ τὸ ἥκιστα τοῦ ἥκιστα ἔσται ἴδιον.  
 οἷον ἐπεὶ οὐκ ἔστι τοῦ ἀνθρώπου τὸ σπουδαῖον  
 ἴδιον, οὐδ' ἂν τοῦ μᾶλλον ἀνθρώπου τὸ μᾶλλον  
 σπουδαῖον ἴδιον εἶη. κατασκευάζοντα δὲ εἰ τὸ  
 35 ἀπλῶς τοῦ ἀπλῶς ἐστὶν ἴδιον· καὶ γὰρ τὸ μᾶλλον  
 τοῦ μᾶλλον καὶ τὸ ἥττον τοῦ ἥττον καὶ τὸ ἥκιστα  
 τοῦ ἥκιστα καὶ τὸ μάλιστα τοῦ μάλιστα ἔσται  
 ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ τοῦ πυρός ἐστιν ἴδιον τὸ ἄνω  
 138 a φέρεσθαι κατὰ φύσιν, καὶ τοῦ μᾶλλον πυρὸς εἶη  
 ἂν ἴδιον τὸ μᾶλλον ἄνω φέρεσθαι κατὰ φύσιν.  
 τὸν αὐτὸν δὲ τρόπον σκεπτέον ἐστὶ καὶ ἐκ τῶν  
 ἄλλων πρὸς ἅπαντα ταῦτα.

Δεύτερον δ' ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἰ τὸ μᾶλλον  
 5 τοῦ μᾶλλον μὴ ἐστὶν ἴδιον· οὐδὲ γὰρ τὸ ἥττον τοῦ

<sup>a</sup> i.e. the more, the less, etc.

the subject, and the least degree of the least degree and the greatest degree of the greatest degree, and the predicate simply of the subject simply. For example, since a higher degree of sensation is a property of a higher degree of living thing, a lower degree of sensation would be a property of a lower degree of living thing, and the highest degree of the highest degree, and the lowest degree of the lowest degree, and sensation simply of living thing simply.

Next, you can argue from the simple predication to these same kinds of predication,<sup>a</sup> and, for destructive criticism, see whether the predicate simply is not a property of the subject simply ; for then neither will the greater degree of the predicate be a property of the greater degree of the subject, nor the less degree of the less degree, nor the greatest degree of the greatest degree, nor the least degree of the least degree. For example, since ' virtuous ' is not a property of ' man,' ' more virtuous ' could not be a property of ' more-man.' For constructive argument, on the other hand, you must see whether the predicate simply is a property of the subject simply ; for then also the greater degree of the predicate will be a property of the greater degree of the subject, and the less degree of the less degree, and the least degree of the least degree, and the greatest degree of the greatest degree. For example, since it is a property of ' fire ' ' to be carried naturally upwards,' it would be a property of ' a greater degree of fire ' ' to be carried naturally upwards to a greater degree.' In the same manner also one must examine these things from the point of view of the other degrees also.

Secondly, for destructive argument, you must see whether the more fails to be a property of the more ;

ἥττον ἔσται ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ μᾶλλον ἔστιν ἴδιον  
 ζώου τὸ αἰσθάνεσθαι ἢ ἀνθρώπου τὸ ἐπίστασθαι,  
 οὐκ ἔστι δὲ ζώου ἴδιον τὸ αἰσθάνεσθαι, οὐκ ἂν  
 εἴη ἀνθρώπου ἴδιον τὸ ἐπίστασθαι. κατασκευά-  
 ζοντα δ' εἰ τὸ ἥττον τοῦ ἥττόν ἐστιν ἴδιον· καὶ  
 10 γὰρ τὸ μᾶλλον τοῦ μᾶλλον ἔσται ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ  
 ἥττόν ἐστιν ἴδιον ἀνθρώπου τὸ ἡμερον φύσει ἢ  
 ζώου τὸ ζῆν, ἔστι δ' ἀνθρώπου ἴδιον τὸ ἡμερον  
 φύσει, εἴη ἂν ζώου ἴδιον τὸ ζῆν.

Τρίτον δ' ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἰ οὐ μᾶλλον ἔστιν  
 ἴδιον, μή ἐστιν ἴδιον· οὐδὲ γὰρ οὐ ἥττόν ἐστιν ἴδιον,  
 15 ἔσται τούτου ἴδιον. εἰ δ' ἐκείνου ἔστιν ἴδιον, οὐκ  
 ἔσται τούτου ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ τὸ κεχρῶσθαι μάλ-  
 λον τῆς ἐπιφανείας ἢ τοῦ σώματος ἔστιν ἴδιον,  
 οὐκ ἔστι δὲ τῆς ἐπιφανείας ἴδιον, οὐκ ἂν εἴη τοῦ  
 σώματος ἴδιον τὸ κεχρῶσθαι. εἰ δ' ἐστὶ τῆς  
 ἐπιφανείας ἴδιον, οὐκ ἂν εἴη τοῦ σώματος ἴδιον.  
 20 κατασκευάζοντι δὲ ὁ τόπος οὗτος οὐκ ἔστι χρήσι-  
 μος· ἀδύνατον γάρ ἐστι ταὐτὸ πλειόνων ἴδιον εἶναι.

Τέταρτον δ' ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἰ τὸ μᾶλλον  
 αὐτοῦ ἴδιον μή ἐστιν ἴδιον· οὐδὲ γὰρ τὸ ἥττον  
 αὐτοῦ ἴδιον ἔσται ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ μᾶλλον ἔστι  
 25 τοῦ ζώου ἴδιον τὸ αἰσθητὸν ἢ τὸ μεριστόν, οὐκ  
 ἔστι δὲ τοῦ ζώου τὸ αἰσθητὸν ἴδιον, οὐκ ἂν εἴη  
 τοῦ ζώου τὸ μεριστόν ἴδιον. κατασκευάζοντα δὲ  
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for then neither will the less be a property of the less. For example, since 'perceiving' is more a property of 'animal' than 'knowing' is a property of 'man,' and 'perceiving' is not a property of 'animal,' 'knowing' would not be a property of 'man.' For constructive argument, on the other hand, you must see whether the less is a property of the less, for then the more will also be a property of the more. For example, since 'to be naturally civilized' is less a property of 'man' than 'living' is a property of 'animal,' and it is a property of 'man,' 'to be naturally civilized,' 'living' would be a property of 'animal.'

Thirdly, for destructive criticism, you must see whether a predicate fails to be a property of that of which it is to a greater degree a property ; for then neither will it be a property of that of which it is to a less degree a property ; and if it is a property of the former, it will not be a property of the latter. For example, since 'to be coloured' is to a greater degree a property of 'surface' than of 'body,' and it is not a property of 'surface,' 'to be coloured' could not be a property of 'body' ; and if it is a property of 'surface,' it could not be a property of 'body.' This commonplace is of no use for constructive argument ; for the same thing cannot possibly be a property of more than one thing.

Fourthly, for destructive criticism, you must see whether what is to a greater degree a property of the subject fails to be its property ; for then neither will what is to a less degree a property be its property. For example, since 'sensible' is to a greater degree a property of 'animal' than 'divisible,' and 'sensible' is not a property of 'animal,' 'divisible' could not be a property of 'animal.' For constructive argu

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εἰ τὸ ἡττον αὐτοῦ ὃν ἴδιον ἔστιν ἴδιον· καὶ γὰρ τὸ μᾶλλον αὐτοῦ ὃν ἴδιον ἔσται ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ ἡττόν ἐστιν ἴδιον ζώου τὸ αἰσθάνεσθαι ἢ τὸ ζῆν, ἔστι δὲ τοῦ ζώου τὸ αἰσθάνεσθαι ἴδιον, εἴη ἂν τοῦ ζώου τὸ ζῆν ἴδιον.

30 Ἐπειτ' ἐκ τῶν ὁμοίως ὑπαρχόντων πρῶτον μὲν ἀνασκευάζοντα εἰ τὸ ὁμοίως ὃν ἴδιον μὴ ἐστιν ἴδιον τούτου οὗ ὁμοίως ἐστὶν ἴδιον· οὐδὲ γὰρ τὸ ὁμοίως ὃν ἴδιον ἔσται ἴδιον τούτου οὗ ὁμοίως ἐστὶν ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ ὁμοίως ἐστὶν ἴδιον ἐπιθυμητικοῦ τὸ ἐπιθυμεῖν καὶ λογιστικοῦ τὸ λογίζεσθαι, οὐκ  
35 ἔστι δ' ἴδιον ἐπιθυμητικοῦ τὸ ἐπιθυμεῖν, οὐκ ἂν εἴη ἴδιον λογιστικοῦ τὸ λογίζεσθαι. κατασκευάζοντα δὲ εἰ τὸ ὁμοίως ὃν ἴδιον ἔστι τούτου ἴδιον οὗ ὁμοίως ἐστὶν ἴδιον· ἔσται γὰρ καὶ τὸ ὁμοίως ὃν

138 b ἴδιον τούτου ἴδιον οὗ ὁμοίως ἐστὶν ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ ὁμοίως ἐστὶν ἴδιον λογιστικοῦ τὸ πρῶτον φρόνιμον καὶ ἐπιθυμητικοῦ τὸ πρῶτον σῶφρον, ἔστι δὲ τοῦ λογιστικοῦ ἴδιον τὸ πρῶτον φρόνιμον,  
5 εἴη ἂν τοῦ ἐπιθυμητικοῦ ἴδιον τὸ πρῶτον σῶφρον.

Δεύτερον δ' ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἰ τὸ ὁμοίως ὃν ἴδιον μὴ ἐστὶν ἴδιον αὐτοῦ· οὐδὲ γὰρ τὸ ὁμοίως

ment you must see whether what is to a less degree a property of the subject is a property ; for then what is to a greater degree a property will be a property. For example, since 'sensation' is to a less degree a property of 'animal' than 'life,' and 'sensation' is a property of 'animal,' 'life' would be a property of 'animal.'

Next, you can argue from attributes which belong in an equal degree and first, for destructive criticism, see whether what is to an equal degree a property fails to be a property of that which is an equal degree a property ; for then neither will what is a property in an equal degree be a property of that of which it is in an equal degree a property. For example, since 'appetite' is a property of 'the appetitive faculty' in a degree equal to that in which 'reason' is a property of the 'reasoning faculty,' and 'appetitive' is not a property of the 'appetitive faculty,' 'reason' could not be a property of the 'reasoning faculty.' For constructive argument, you must see whether what is in an equal degree a property is a property of that of which it is in an equal degree a property ; for then also what is to an equal degree a property will be a property of that of which it is in an equal degree a property. For example, since 'primary wisdom' is a property of the 'reasoning faculty' in a degree equal to that in which 'primary temperance' is a property of the 'appetitive faculty,' and 'primary wisdom' is a property of the 'reasoning faculty,' 'primary temperance' would be a property of the 'appetitive faculty.'

Secondly, for destructive criticism, you must see whether what is in an equal degree a property of a subject fails to be a property of it ; for then neither will

(b) *From a comparison of an attribute-relation which resembles the alleged property-relation (1) between a different attribute and a different subject.*

(2) *Between the subject of the alleged property and a different attribute.*

ὃν ἴδιον ἔσται ἴδιον αὐτοῦ. οἷον ἐπεὶ ὁμοίως ἐστὶν ἴδιον ἀνθρώπου τὸ ὄρᾶν καὶ τὸ ἀκούειν, οὐκ ἔστι  
 10 δ' ἀνθρώπου ἴδιον τὸ ὄρᾶν, οὐκ ἂν εἴη ἀνθρώπου ἴδιον τὸ ἀκούειν. κατασκευάζοντα δὲ εἰ τὸ ὁμοίως αὐτοῦ ὃν ἴδιον ἔστιν ἴδιον· καὶ γὰρ τὸ ὁμοίως αὐτοῦ ὃν ἴδιον ἔσται ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ ὁμοίως ἐστὶν ἴδιον ψυχῆς τὸ μέρος αὐτῆς ἐπιθυμητικὸν εἶναι καὶ λογιστικὸν πρῶτου, ἔστι δὲ ψυχῆς ἴδιον τὸ μέρος αὐτῆς εἶναι ἐπιθυμητικὸν πρῶτου, εἴη ἂν  
 15 ἴδιον ψυχῆς τὸ μέρος αὐτῆς εἶναι λογιστικὸν πρῶτου.

Τρίτον δ' ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἰ οὐ ὁμοίως ἐστὶν ἴδιον, μὴ ἐστὶν ἴδιον· οὐδὲ γὰρ οὐ ὁμοίως ἐστὶν ἴδιον, ἔσται ἴδιον. εἰ δ' ἐκείνου ἐστὶν ἴδιον, οὐκ ἔσται θατέρου ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ ὁμοίως ἐστὶν ἴδιον τὸ καίειν φλογὸς καὶ ἄνθρακος, οὐκ ἔστι δ' ἴδιον  
 20 φλογὸς τὸ καίειν, οὐκ ἂν εἴη ἴδιον ἄνθρακος τὸ καίειν. εἰ δ' ἐστὶ φλογὸς ἴδιον, οὐκ ἂν εἴη ἄνθρακος ἴδιον. κατασκευάζοντι δὲ οὐδὲν οὗτος ὁ τόπος ἐστὶ χρήσιμος.

Διαφέρει δ' ὁ ἐκ τῶν ὁμοίως ἐχόντων τοῦ ἐκ τῶν ὁμοίως ὑπαρχόντων, ὅτι τὸ μὲν κατ' ἀνα-



what is in an equal degree a property be a property of it. For example, since 'sight' and 'hearing' are in an equal degree properties of 'man,' and 'sight' is not a property of 'man,' neither could 'hearing' be a property of 'man.' For constructive argument you must see whether what is in an equal degree a property of the subject is a property; for then what is in an equal degree a property will be a property. For example, since it is a property of 'soul,' as something primary, for part of it to be 'appetitive' in a degree equal to that in which part of it is part 'reasoning,' and it is a property of 'soul,' as something primary, for part of it to be 'appetitive,' it would be a property of 'soul,' as something primary, for part of it to be 'reasoning.'

Thirdly, for destructive criticism, you must see whether it is *not* a property of that of which it is in an equal degree a property; for then neither will it be a property of that of which it is in an equal degree a property; and, if it is a property of the former, it will not be a property of the latter. For example, since 'to cause burning' is in an equal degree a property of 'flame' and of 'live-coal,' and 'to cause burning' is not a property of 'flame,' 'to cause burning' could not be a property of 'live-coal'; and if it *is* a property of 'flame,' it could not be a property of 'live-coal.' For constructive argument, however, this commonplace is of no use.

The commonplace based on things which stand in a similar relation <sup>a</sup> differs from that based on things which belong in an equal degree,<sup>b</sup> because the former case is derived by analogy and not from a considera-

<sup>a</sup> See 136 b 33 ff.

<sup>b</sup> See 138 a 30 ff.

(3) *Between the alleged property and a different subject.*

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25 λογίαν λαμβάνεται, οὐκ ἐπὶ τοῦ ὑπάρχειν τι θεωρούμενον, τὸ δ' ἐκ τοῦ ὑπάρχειν τι συγκρίνεται.

IX. Ἐπειτ' ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἰ δυνάμει τὸ ἴδιον ἀποδιδούς καὶ πρὸς μὴ ὄν ἀποδέδωκε τὸ ἴδιον τῇ δυνάμει, μὴ ἐνδεχομένης τῆς δυνάμεως  
30 ὑπάρχειν τῷ μὴ ὄντι· οὐ γὰρ ἔσται ἴδιον τὸ κείμενον εἶναι ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ ὁ εἶπας αἶρος ἴδιον τὸ ἀναπνευστὸν τῇ δυνάμει μὲν ἀπέδωκε τὸ ἴδιον (τὸ γὰρ τοιοῦτον οἷον ἀναπνεῖσθαι ἀναπνευστόν ἐστιν), ἀποδέδωκε δὲ καὶ πρὸς τὸ μὴ ὄν τὸ ἴδιον· καὶ γὰρ μὴ ὄντος ζώου, οἷον ἀναπνεῖν πέφυκε τὸ αἶρα, ἐνδέχεται αἶρα εἶναι· οὐ μέντοι μὴ ὄντος  
35 ζώου δυνατόν ἐστιν ἀναπνεῖν· ὥστ' οὐδ' αἶρος ἔσται ἴδιον τὸ τοιοῦτον οἷον ἀναπνεῖσθαι, τότε ὅτε ζῶον οὐκ ἔσται τοιοῦτον οἷον ἀναπνεῖν. οὐκ ἂν οὖν εἴη αἶρος ἴδιον τὸ ἀναπνευστόν.

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Κατασκευάζοντα δὲ εἰ τῇ δυνάμει ἀποδιδούς τὸ ἴδιον ἢ πρὸς ὄν ἀποδίδωσι τὸ ἴδιον ἢ πρὸς μὴ ὄν, ἐνδεχομένης τῆς δυνάμεως τῷ μὴ ὄντι ὑπάρχειν· ἔσται γὰρ ἴδιον τὸ κείμενον μὴ εἶναι ἴδιον. οἷον  
5 ἐπεὶ ὁ ἀποδιδούς ἴδιον τοῦ ὄντος τὸ δυνατόν παθεῖν ἢ ποιῆσαι, δυνάμει ἀποδιδούς τὸ ἴδιον, πρὸς ὄν ἀπέδωκε τὸ ἴδιον· ὅτε γὰρ ὄν ἐστι, καὶ δυνατόν  
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tion about some attribute belonging, while the latter involves a comparison based on the fact that some attribute belongs.

IX. Next, for destructive criticism, you must see whether, in assigning the property potentially, your opponent has also through the potentiality assigned the property in relation to something which does not exist, since the potentiality cannot possibly belong to something which does not exist; for then what is stated to be a property will not be a property. For example, the man who has said that 'respirable' is a property of 'air' has, on the one hand, assigned the property in virtue of a potentiality (for that is 'respirable' which is of such a kind as to be respired), while, on the other hand, he has also assigned the property in relation to what does not exist. For air can exist even if no animal exists of such a kind as to respire it; but it is impossible to respire it, if no animal exists. And so it will not be a property of air to be such as to be respired at a time when no animal will exist of such a kind as to respire it. Therefore 'respirable' could not be a property of air.

*Two further rules: (a) A property is subverted when assigned potentially to something which does not exist, and confirmed vice versa.*

For constructive argument, you must see whether in assigning the property potentially he assigns the property in relation either to something which exists or to something which does not exist, when the potentiality can belong to what does exist; for then what is stated not to be a property will be a property. For example, he who assigns 'able to affect, or be affected by, something' as a property of 'being,' by assigning the property potentially, has assigned it in relation to what exists (for, when 'being' exists, it will also be 'able to be affected by, or to affect

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παθεῖν τι ἢ ποιῆσαι ἔσται· ὥστε εἴη ἂν ἴδιον τοῦ  
 ὄντος τὸ δυνατόν παθεῖν ἢ ποιῆσαι.

- Ἐπειτ' ἀνασκευάζοντα μὲν εἰ ὑπερβολῇ τέθεικε  
 10 τὸ ἴδιον· οὐ γὰρ ἔσται ἴδιον τὸ κείμενον εἶναι ἴδιον.  
 συμβαίνει γὰρ τοῖς οὕτως ἀποδιδούσι τὸ ἴδιον οὐ  
 καθ' οὗ τὸν λόγον τοῦνομα ἀληθεύεσθαι· φθαρέντος  
 γὰρ τοῦ πράγματος οὐδὲν ἦττον ἔσται ὁ λόγος·  
 τῶν γὰρ ὄντων τινὶ μάλιστα ὑπάρχει. οἷον εἰ  
 τις ἀποδοίῃ τοῦ πυρὸς ἴδιον σῶμα τὸ κουφότατον·  
 15 φθαρέντος γὰρ τοῦ πυρὸς ἔσται τι τῶν σωμάτων  
 ὃ κουφότατον ἔσται, ὥστ' οὐκ ἂν εἴη τοῦ πυρὸς  
 ἴδιον σῶμα τὸ κουφότατον. κατασκευάζοντα δὲ  
 εἰ μὴ ὑπερβολῇ τέθεικε τὸ ἴδιον· ἔσται γὰρ κατὰ  
 τοῦτο καλῶς κείμενον τὸ ἴδιον. οἷον ἐπεὶ ὁ θεὸς  
 ἀνθρώπου ἴδιον ζῶον ἡμερον φύσει οὐχ ὑπερβολῇ  
 20 ἀποδέδωκε τὸ ἴδιον, εἴη ἂν κατὰ τοῦτο καλῶς  
 κείμενον τὸ ἴδιον.



something else'), and so to be 'able to be affected by, or to affect, something else' would be a property of 'being.'

Next, for destructive criticism, you must see whether he has stated the property in a superlative degree; for then what is stated to be a property will not be a property. For the result of stating the property in this manner is that the name is not true of that of which the description is true; for, if the thing itself has perished, the description will none the less exist, for it belongs in the greatest degree to something which exists. For example, if one were to assign as a property of 'fire' that it is 'the lightest of bodies'; for, though the fire has perished, there will still be some body which will be the lightest; and so 'the lightest body' could not be a property of 'fire.' For constructive argument, on the other hand, you must see whether he failed to state the property in a superlative degree; for then the property will be correctly stated in this respect. For example, since he who has stated that it is a property of 'man' that he is 'by nature a civilized animal,' has not assigned the property in a superlative degree, the property would be correctly stated in this respect.

(b) A property is subverted if stated in the superlative.

# Z

139 a 24 I. Τῆς δὲ περὶ τοὺς ὅρους πραγματείας μέρη  
 25 πέντε ἐστίν. ἥ γὰρ ὅτι ὅλως οὐκ ἀληθὲς εἰπεῖν,  
 καθ' οὗ τοῦνομα, καὶ τὸν λόγον (δεῖ γὰρ τὸν τοῦ  
 ἀνθρώπου ὀρισμὸν κατὰ παντὸς ἀνθρώπου ἀλη-  
 θεύεσθαι), ἥ ὅτι ὄντος γένους οὐκ ἔθηκεν εἰς τὸ  
 γένος ἥ οὐκ εἰς τὸ οἰκείον γένος ἔθηκεν (δεῖ γὰρ  
 τὸν ὀριζόμενον εἰς τὸ γένος θέντα τὰς διαφορὰς  
 30 προσάπτειν· μάλιστα γὰρ τῶν ἐν τῷ ὀρισμῷ τὸ  
 γένος δοκεῖ τὴν τοῦ ὀριζομένου οὐσίαν σημαίνειν),  
 ἥ ὅτι οὐκ ἴδιος ὁ λόγος (δεῖ γὰρ τὸν ὀρισμὸν ἴδιον  
 εἶναι, καθάπερ καὶ πρότερον εἴρηται), ἥ εἰ πάντα  
 τὰ εἰρημένα πεποιηκῶς μὴ ὥρισται μὴδ' εἴρηκε  
 τὸ τί ἦν εἶναι τῷ ὀριζομένῳ. λοιπὸν δὲ παρὰ τὰ  
 35 εἰρημένα, εἰ ὥρισται μὲν, μὴ καλῶς δ' ὥρισται.

Εἰ μὲν οὖν μὴ ἀληθεύεται, καθ' οὗ τοῦνομα, καὶ  
 ὁ λόγος, ἐκ τῶν πρὸς τὸ συμβεβηκὸς τόπων  
 ἐπισκεπτέον. καὶ γὰρ ἐκεῖ, πότερον ἀληθὲς ἥ οὐκ  
 139 b ἀληθές, πᾶσα ἡ σκέψις γίνεται· ὅταν μὲν γὰρ ὅτι

<sup>a</sup> Sc. in order to overthrow a definition.

<sup>b</sup> 101 b 19.

## BOOK VI

I. Of the discussion of definitions there are five parts. You must prove <sup>a</sup> either (1) that it is quite untrue to use the description also about the subject to which the name is given (for the definition of 'man' must be true of every man); or (2) that, though the subject has a genus, your opponent has not put it into its genus or has not put it into its proper genus (for he who defines must put the subject into its genus and then add the differentiae; for, more than any of the other component parts of a definition, the genus is generally regarded as indicating the essence of the subject of the definition); or (3) that the description is not peculiar to the subject (for the definition must be peculiar, as has been already remarked <sup>b</sup>); or (4) that, although he has satisfied all the above requirements, he has not given a definition, that is, he has not stated the essence of the subject which he is defining. Apart from the above conditions, (5) it still remains to see whether, although he has given a definition, he has failed to give a correct definition.

(D) OF  
DEFINI-  
TION  
(BOOKS  
VI AND  
VII). <sup>a</sup>  
General  
division of  
problems  
dealing with  
definition,  
some of  
which have  
been  
already  
treated.

The question whether the description is not also true about the subject to which the name is given must be examined on the basis of the commonplaces relating to accident. For there also the question always asked is, 'Is it true or not?' For, when we are

ὑπάρχει τὸ συμβεβηκὸς διαλεγόμεθα, ὅτι ἀληθὲς  
λέγομεν, ὅταν δ' ὅτι οὐχ ὑπάρχει, ὅτι οὐκ ἀλη-  
θές. εἰ δὲ μὴ ἐν τῷ οἰκείῳ γένει ἔθηκεν, ἢ εἰ μὴ  
ἴδιος ὁ ἀποδοθεὶς λόγος, ἐκ τῶν πρὸς τὸ γένος  
5 καὶ τὸ ἴδιον ῥηθέντων τόπων ἐπισκεπτέον.

Λοιπὸν δ', εἰ μὴ ὥρισται ἢ εἰ μὴ καλῶς ὥρισται,  
πῶς μετιτέον, εἰπεῖν. πρῶτον μὲν οὖν ἐπισκεπτέον  
εἰ μὴ καλῶς ὥρισται. ῥᾶον γὰρ ὅτιοῦν ποιῆσαι  
ἢ καλῶς ποιῆσαι. δῆλον οὖν ὅτι ἡ ἀμαρτία περὶ  
10 τοῦτο πλείων, ἐπειδὴ ἐργωδέστερον, ὥσθ' ἢ ἐπι-  
χείρησις ῥᾶων ἢ περὶ τοῦτο ἢ ἢ περὶ ἐκεῖνο γί-  
νεται.

Ἔστι δὲ τοῦ μὴ καλῶς μέρη δύο, ἐν μὲν τὸ  
ἀσαφεῖ τῇ ἐρμηνείᾳ κεχρῆσθαι (δεῖ γὰρ τὸν ὀρι-  
ζόμενον ὡς ἐνδέχεται σαφειστάτῃ τῇ ἐρμηνείᾳ  
15 κεχρῆσθαι, ἐπειδὴ τοῦ γνωρίσαι χάριν ἀποδίδοται  
ὁ ὀρισμός), δεύτερον δ', εἰ ἐπὶ πλεῖον εἴρηκε τὸν  
λόγον τοῦ δέοντος· πᾶν γὰρ τὸ προσκείμενον ἐν τῷ  
ὀρισμῷ περίεργον. πάλιν δ' ἐκάτερον τῶν εἰρη-  
μένων εἰς πλείω μέρη διείληπται.

II. Εἰς μὲν οὖν τόπος τοῦ ἀσαφῶς, εἰ ὁμώνυμόν  
20 ἐστὶ τινι τὸ εἰρημένον, οἶον ὅτι ἢ γένεσις ἀγωγή  
εἰς οὐσίαν ἢ ὅτι ἢ ὑγίεια συμμετρία θερμῶν καὶ  
ψυχρῶν. ὁμώνυμος γὰρ ἢ ἀγωγή καὶ ἢ συμμετρία·  
ἄδηλον οὖν ὁπότερον βούλεται λέγειν τῶν δηλου-  
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arguing that the accident belongs, we assert that it is true ; when we are arguing that it does not belong, we assert that it is untrue. If your opponent has failed to put the subject in its proper genus, or if the description assigned is not peculiar to the subject, we must make our inquiry on the basis of the commonplaces relating to genus and property already mentioned.

It remains to state how we ought to proceed to inquire whether the subject has not been defined or whether it has been incorrectly defined. First, then, we must examine whether it has been incorrectly defined ; for it is easier to do anything, no matter what, than to do it correctly. It is obvious, then, that error is more frequent in the latter task (for it is more laborious), and so the attack is made more easily in the latter than in the former case.

Incorrectness in definition falls under two headings: The first is the use of obscure language (for the framer of a definition ought to use the clearest possible language, since the definition is assigned in order to make the subject known). The second is whether he has used a description which is unnecessarily long ; for anything additional is superfluous in a definition. Each of these two headings is divided into several parts.

II. One commonplace regarding obscurity is that you should see whether what is stated is equivocal with something else, as, for example, in the statement that ' coming-to-be is a channel towards being ' or that ' health is a balancing of hot and cold.' The words ' channel ' and ' balancing ' are equivocal ; it is, therefore, obscure which of the significations of a word which has more than one meaning the dis-

How to  
avoid  
obscurity.

μένων ὑπὸ τοῦ πλεοναχῶς λεγομένου. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ εἰ τοῦ ὀριζομένου πλεοναχῶς λεγομένου μὴ  
 25 διελὼν εἶπεν· ἄδηλον γὰρ ὁποτέρου τὸν ὅρον ἀποδέδωκεν, ἐνδέχεται τε συκοφαντεῖν ὥς οὐκ ἐφαρμόττοντος τοῦ λόγου ἐπὶ πάντα ὦν τὸν ὀρισμὸν ἀποδέδωκεν. μάλιστα δ' ἐνδέχεται τὸ τοιοῦτον ποιεῖν λανθανούσης τῆς ὁμωνυμίας. ἐνδέχεται δὲ καὶ διελόμενον αὐτόν, ποσαχῶς λέγεται τὸ ἐν τῷ  
 30 ὀρισμῷ ἀποδοθέν, συλλογισμὸν ποιῆσαι· εἰ γὰρ κατὰ μηδένα τῶν τρόπων ἱκανῶς εἴρηται, δηλὸν ὅτι οὐκ ἂν ὠρισμένος εἴη κατὰ τρόπον.

"Ἄλλος, εἰ κατὰ μεταφορὰν εἴρηκεν, οἷον εἰ τὴν ἐπιστήμην ἀμετάπτωτον ἢ τὴν γῆν τιθήνην ἢ τὴν σωφροσύνην συμφωνίαν. πᾶν γὰρ ἀσαφές τὸ  
 35 κατὰ μεταφορὰν λεγόμενον. ἐνδέχεται δὲ τὸν κατὰ μεταφορὰν<sup>1</sup> εἰπόντα συκοφαντεῖν ὥς κυρίως εἰρηκότα· οὐ γὰρ ἐφαρμόσει ὁ λεχθεὶς ὅρος, οἷον ἐπὶ τῆς σωφροσύνης· πᾶσα γὰρ συμφωνία ἐν φθόγγοις. ἔτι εἰ γένος ἢ συμφωνία τῆς σωφρο-  
 140 α σύννης, ἐν δύο γένεσιν ἔσται ταῦτόν οὐ περιέχουσιν ἄλληλα· οὔτε γὰρ ἡ συμφωνία τὴν ἀρετὴν οὔθ' ἡ ἀρετὴ τὴν συμφωνίαν περιέχει.

"Ἐτι εἰ μὴ κειμένοις ὀνόμασι χρῆται, οἷον Πλάτων ὄφρυόσκιον τὸν ὀφθαλμόν, ἢ τὸ φαλάγγιον  
 5 σηψιδακές, ἢ τὸν μυελὸν ὀστεογενές· πᾶν γὰρ ἀσαφές τὸ μὴ εἰωθός.

"Ἐνια δ' οὔτε καθ' ὁμωνυμίαν οὔτε κατὰ μετα-

<sup>1</sup> Reading τὸν κατὰ μεταφορὰν with P.

<sup>a</sup> Presumably the reference is to Plato Comicus, since these words do not occur in the extant works of the philosopher.

putant wishes to convey. Similarly, too, if he has made a statement, when the subject which is being defined bears several senses, without distinguishing them ; for then it is uncertain of which sense he has given the definition, and it is possible to make a quibbling objection on the ground that the description does not fit everything of which he has given the definition. Such a proceeding is especially possible if the equivocation is not detected. Again, it is open to his opponent himself to distinguish the various meanings of the subject rendered in the definition and argue accordingly ; for, if the description is not adequate in respect of any of the various senses, obviously he cannot have given a proper description.

Another commonplace is to see whether he has spoken metaphorically, as, for example, if he has described knowledge as 'unshakeable,' or the earth as a 'nurse,' or temperance as a 'harmony' ; for metaphorical expressions are always obscure. Also, it is possible to quibble against one who has spoken metaphorically, representing him as having used the word in its proper sense ; for then the definition given will not fit, as in the case of 'temperance,' for 'harmony' is always used of sounds. Further, if harmony is the genus of temperance, the same thing will be found in two genera neither of which includes the other ; for neither does harmony include virtue, nor virtue harmony.

Further, you must see if he uses terms of which the use is not well established, as Plato <sup>a</sup> calls the eye 'brow-shaded' or the poison-spider 'bite-mortifying,' or 'marrow' as 'bone-begotten' ; for unusual words are always obscure.

Words are sometimes used neither equivocally, nor

φορὰν οὔτε κυρίως εἴρηται, οἷον ὁ νόμος μέτρον  
 ἢ εἰκῶν τῶν φύσει δικαίων. ἔστι δὲ τὰ τοιαῦτα  
 χεῖρω τῆς μεταφορᾶς· ἢ μὲν γὰρ μεταφορὰ ποιεῖ  
 10 πως γνῶριμον τὸ σημαινόμενον διὰ τὴν ὁμοιότητα·  
 πάντες γὰρ οἱ μεταφέροντες κατὰ τινὰ ὁμοιότητα  
 μεταφέρουσιν· τὸ δὲ τοιοῦτον οὐ ποιεῖ γνῶριμον·  
 οὔτε γὰρ ἡ ὁμοιότης ὑπάρχει, καθ' ἣν μέτρον ἢ  
 εἰκῶν ὁ νόμος ἐστίν, οὔτε κυρίως εἴωθε λέγεσθαι.  
 ὥστε εἰ μὲν κυρίως μέτρον ἢ εἰκόνα τὸν νόμον  
 15 φησὶν εἶναι, ψεύδεται· εἰκῶν γάρ ἐστιν οὗ ἡ γένεσις  
 διὰ μιμήσεως, τοῦτο δ' οὐχ ὑπάρχει τῷ νόμῳ·  
 εἰ δὲ μὴ κυρίως, δῆλον ὅτι ἀσαφῶς εἴρηκε καὶ  
 χεῖρον ὁποιοῦν τῶν κατὰ μεταφορὰν λεγομέ-  
 νων.

"Ἐτι εἰ μὴ δῆλος ὁ τοῦ ἐναντίου λόγος ἐκ τοῦ  
 λεχθέντος· οἱ γὰρ καλῶς ἀποδοδομένοι καὶ τοὺς  
 20 ἐναντίους προσσημαίνουν· ἢ εἰ καθ' αὐτὸν  
 λεχθεὶς μὴ φανερὸς εἴη τίνος ἐστὶν ὁρισμός, ἀλλὰ  
 καθάπερ τὰ τῶν ἀρχαίων γραφῶν, εἰ μὴ τις  
 ἐπιγράψαι, οὐκ ἐγνωρίζετο τί ἐστὶν ἕκαστον.

III. Εἰ μὲν οὖν μὴ σαφῶς, ἐκ τῶν τοιούτων  
 ἐστὶν ἐπισκεπτέον· εἰ δ' ἐπὶ πλεῖον εἴρηκε τὸν  
 25 ὅρον, πρῶτον μὲν σκοπεῖν εἴ τι καίχρηται ὁ πᾶσιν  
 ὑπάρχει, ἢ ὅλως τοῖς οὖσιν ἢ τοῖς ὑπὸ ταὐτὸ γένος



metaphorically, nor in their proper sense ; for example, the law is said to be the 'measure' or 'image' of things naturally just. Such phrases are worse than metaphors ; for a metaphor in a way adds to our knowledge of what is indicated on account of the similarity, for those who use metaphors always do so on account of some similarity. But the kind of phrase of which we are speaking does not add to our knowledge ; for no similarity exists in virtue of which the law is a 'measure' or an 'image,' nor is the law usually described by these words in their proper sense. So, if anyone says that the law is a 'measure' or an 'image' in the proper sense of these words, he is lying ; for an image is something whose coming into being is due to imitation, and this does not apply to the law. If, however, he is not using the word in its proper sense, obviously he has spoken obscurely, and with worse effect than any kind of metaphorical language.

Further, you must see whether the definition of the contrary fails to be clear from the description given ; for correctly assigned definitions also indicate their contraries. Or, again, you must see whether, when it is stated by itself, it fails to show clearly what it is that it defines, just as in the works of the early painters, unless they were inscribed, it was impossible to recognize what each figure represented.

III. If, then, the definition is not clearly rendered, it should be examined by the methods described above. If, however, he has stated the definition in too many words, you must first see if he has made use of any attribute universally applicable, that is, either generally to existing things, or to things which fall under the same genus as the subject of the defini-

How to  
avoid  
redundancy.

140 a

τῷ ὀριζομένῳ· ἐπὶ πλεῖον γὰρ εἰρῆσθαι ἀναγκαῖον  
 τοῦτο. δεῖ γὰρ τὸ μὲν γένος ἀπὸ τῶν ἄλλων  
 χωρίζειν, τὴν δὲ διαφορὰν ἀπὸ τινος τῶν ἐν τῷ  
 αὐτῷ γένει. τὸ μὲν οὖν πᾶσιν ὑπάρχον ἀπλῶς  
 30 ἀπ' οὐδενὸς χωρίζει, τὸ δὲ τοῖς ὑπὸ ταῦτό γένος  
 πᾶσιν ὑπάρχον οὐ χωρίζει ἀπὸ τῶν ἐν ταύτῳ γένει,  
 ὥστε μάταιον τὸ τοιοῦτον προσκείμενον.

Ἡ εἰ ἔστι μὲν ἴδιον τὸ προσκείμενον, ἀφαιρε-  
 θέντος δὲ τούτου καὶ ὁ λοιπὸς λόγος ἴδιός ἐστι  
 35 καὶ δηλοῖ τὴν οὐσίαν. οἷον ἐν τῷ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου  
 λόγῳ τὸ ἐπιστήμης δεκτικὸν προστεθὲν περιέργον·  
 καὶ γὰρ ἀφαιρεθέντος τούτου ὁ λοιπὸς λόγος  
 ἴδιος καὶ δηλοῖ τὴν οὐσίαν. ἀπλῶς δ' εἰπεῖν,  
 140 b ἅπαν περιέργον οὐ ἀφαιρεθέντος τὸ λοιπὸν δῆλον  
 ποιεῖ τὸ ὀριζόμενον. τοιοῦτος δὲ καὶ ὁ τῆς ψυχῆς  
 ὅρος, εἰ ἀριθμὸς αὐτὸς αὐτὸν κινῶν ἐστίν· καὶ γὰρ  
 τὸ αὐτὸ αὐτὸ κινῶν ψυχὴ, καθάπερ Πλάτων  
 5 ὥριται. ἢ ἴδιον μὲν ἐστὶ τὸ εἰρημένον, οὐ δηλοῖ  
 δὲ τὴν οὐσίαν ἀφαιρεθέντος τοῦ ἀριθμοῦ. ποτέρως  
 μὲν οὖν ἔχει, χαλεπὸν διασαφῆσαι· χρηστέον δ'  
 ἐπὶ πάντων τῶν τοιούτων πρὸς τὸ συμφέρον.  
 οἷον ὅτι ὁ τοῦ φλέγματος ὅρος ὑγρὸν πρῶτον  
 ἀπὸ τροφῆς ἄπεπτον. ἐν γὰρ τὸ πρῶτον, οὐ  
 πολλά, ὥστε περιέργον τὸ ἄπεπτον προσκείμενον·  
 10 καὶ γὰρ τούτου ἀφαιρεθέντος ὁ λοιπὸς ἔσται ἴδιος  
 λόγος· οὐ γὰρ ἐνδέχεται ἀπὸ τῆς τροφῆς καὶ τοῦτο

<sup>a</sup> Xenocrates, fr. 60 (Heinze); *de Anim.* 404 b 29.

tion ; for then there must necessarily be redundancy in the statement. For the genus ought to separate the subject from all other things, and the differentia from something in the same genus. Now what is universally applicable does not separate the subject from anything at all, and what belongs to everything which falls under the same genus does not separate it from the other things which fall under the same genus ; and so such an addition has no point.

Or, again, you must see whether, though the addition is peculiar to the subject, yet its removal still leaves the rest of the description peculiar to the subject and demonstrates the essence. For example, in the description of ' man ' the addition of ' receptive of knowledge ' is superfluous ; for, if it is removed, the rest of the description is still peculiar and demonstrates the essence. In a word, anything is superfluous the removal of which leaves a clear statement of the subject of the definition. The definition of the soul, if stated as a ' number moving itself,'<sup>a</sup> is a case in point ; for the soul is ' that which moves itself,' according to Plato's definition.<sup>b</sup> Or, perhaps, the statement, though it is peculiar to the subject, does not demonstrate the essence if the word ' number ' is removed. Which of the two statements is true, it is difficult to determine ; but in all such cases our procedure must be guided by expediency. For example, take the definition of phlegm as ' the first unconcocted moisture from food.' Here that which is ' first ' is one and not many, so that the addition of ' unconcocted ' is superfluous ; for, if it is removed, the rest of the description will be peculiar to the subject ; for it is not possible for both phlegm and

<sup>b</sup> *Phaedr.* 245 E.

καὶ ἄλλο τι πρῶτον εἶναι. ἢ οὐχ ἀπλῶς πρῶτον ἀπὸ τροφῆς τὸ φλέγμα, ἀλλὰ τῶν ἀπέπτων πρῶτον, ὥστε προσθετέον τὸ ἄπεπτον· ἐκείνως μὲν γὰρ ῥηθέντος οὐκ ἀληθῆς ὁ λόγος, εἴπερ μὴ πάντων  
15 πρῶτόν ἐστιν.

Ἔτι εἴ τι τῶν ἐν τῷ λόγῳ μὴ πᾶσιν ὑπάρχει τοῖς ὑπὸ ταυτὸ εἶδος· ὁ γὰρ τοιοῦτος χεῖρον ὠρισταί τῶν χρωμένων ὁ πᾶσιν ὑπάρχει τοῖς οὗσιν. ἐκείνως μὲν γὰρ ἂν ὁ λοιπὸς ἴδιος ἢ λόγος,  
20 καὶ ὁ πᾶς ἴδιος ἔσται· ἀπλῶς γὰρ πρὸς τὸ ἴδιον ὁτουοῦν προστεθέντος ἀληθοῦς ὅλος ἴδιος γίνεται. εἰ δέ τι τῶν ἐν τῷ λόγῳ μὴ πᾶσιν ὑπάρχει τοῖς ὑπὸ ταυτὸ εἶδος, ἀδύνατον ὅλον τὸν λόγον ἴδιον εἶναι· οὐ γὰρ ἀντικατηγορηθήσεται τοῦ πράγματος. οἷον τὸ ζῶον πεζὸν δίπουν τετράπηχυν· ὁ γὰρ  
25 τοιοῦτος λόγος οὐκ ἀντικατηγορεῖται τοῦ πράγματος διὰ τὸ μὴ πᾶσιν ὑπάρχειν τοῖς ὑπὸ ταυτὸν εἶδος τὸ τετράπηχυν.

Πάλιν εἰ ταυτὸν πλεονάκεις εἴρηκεν, οἷον τὴν ἐπιθυμίαν ὄρεξιν ἡδέος εἰπών· πᾶσα γὰρ ἐπιθυμία ἡδέος ἐστίν, ὥστε καὶ τὸ ταυτὸν τῇ ἐπιθυμίᾳ ἡδέος ἔσται.  
30 γίνεται οὖν ὅρος τῆς ἐπιθυμίας ὄρεξις ἡδέος ἡδέος· οὐδὲν γὰρ διαφέρει ἐπιθυμίαν εἰπεῖν ἢ ὄρεξιν ἡδέος, ὥσθ' ἐκάτερον αὐτῶν ἡδέος ἔσται. ἢ  
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something else as well to be the first thing produced from food. Or, possibly, phlegm is not the first thing produced from food, but only the first of things unconcocted, so that the word 'unconcocted' must be added; for according to the other statement the description is untrue unless phlegm is the first product of all.

Moreover, you must see whether anything in the description fails to belong to everything which falls under the same species; for a definition of this kind is worse than one which employs an attribute which is universally applicable. For, in that case, if the rest of the description is peculiar to the subject, the whole definition too will be peculiar; for, without exception, if anything at all which is true is added to what is peculiar, the whole becomes peculiar. If, on the other hand, anything in the description does not belong to everything which falls under the same species, the description as a whole cannot be peculiar; for it will not be predicated convertibly with the subject. Take, for example, the definition 'pedestrian biped animal four cubits high'; such a description is not predicated convertibly with the subject, because 'four cubits high' does not belong to everything which falls under the same species.

Again, you must see whether he has said the same thing more than once, as, for example, if he declares that 'desire' is an 'appetite for the pleasant'; for all 'desire' is 'for the pleasant,' so that what is the same as desire will also be 'for the pleasant.' The result then is a definition of 'desire' as 'an appetite-for-the-pleasant for the pleasant'; for there is no difference between saying 'desire' and 'appetite for the pleasant,' so that both will be 'for the pleasant.'

- τοῦτο μὲν οὐδὲν ἄτοπον· καὶ γὰρ ὁ ἄνθρωπος δι-  
 πουν ἐστίν, ὥστε καὶ τὸ ταῦτόν τῳ ἀνθρώπῳ δίπουν  
 ἔσται. ἔστι δὲ ταῦτόν τῳ ἀνθρώπῳ ζῶον πε-  
 ζὸν δίπουν, ὥστε ζῶον πεζὸν δίπουν δίπουν ἐστίν.
- 35 ἀλλ' οὐ διὰ τοῦτο ἄτοπὸν τι συμβαίνει· οὐ γὰρ  
 κατὰ ζώου πεζοῦ τὸ δίπουν κατηγορεῖται (οὕτω  
 μὲν γὰρ ἂν δις περὶ τοῦ αὐτοῦ τὸ δίπουν ἂν κατ-
- 141 a ηγοροῖτο), ἀλλὰ περὶ ζώου πεζοῦ δίποδος τὸ  
 δίπουν λέγεται, ὥστε ἅπαξ μόνον τὸ δίπουν  
 κατηγορεῖται. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τῆς ἐπιθυμίας·  
 οὐ γὰρ κατὰ τῆς ὀρέξεως τὸ ἡδέος εἶναι κατ-  
 ηγορεῖται, ἀλλὰ κατὰ τοῦ σύμπαντος, ὥστε ἅπαξ
- 5 καὶ ἐνταῦθα ἡ κατηγορία γίνεται. οὐκ ἔστι δὲ  
 τὸ δις φθέγγασθαι ταῦτόν ὄνομα τῶν ἀτόπων,  
 ἀλλὰ τὸ πλεονάκεις περὶ τίνος τὸ αὐτὸ κατηγο-  
 ρῆσαι, οἷον ὡς Ξενοκράτης τὴν φρόνησιν ὀρι-  
 στικὴν καὶ θεωρητικὴν τῶν ὄντων φησὶν εἶναι. ἡ  
 γὰρ ὀριστικὴ θεωρητικὴ τίς ἐστίν, ὥστε δις τὸ  
 αὐτὸ λέγει προσθεὶς πάλιν καὶ θεωρητικὴν.
- 10 ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ὅσοι τὴν κατάψυξιν στέρησιν τοῦ  
 κατὰ φύσιν θερμοῦ φασὶν εἶναι· πᾶσα γὰρ στέρησις  
 ἐστὶ τοῦ κατὰ φύσιν ὑπάρχοντος, ὥστε περιέργον  
 τὸ προσθεῖναι τοῦ κατὰ φύσιν, ἀλλ' ἱκανὸν ἦν  
 εἰπεῖν στέρησιν θερμοῦ, ἐπειδὴ αὐτὴ ἡ στέρησις  
 γνώριμον ποιεῖ ὅτι τοῦ κατὰ φύσιν λέγεται.
- 15 Πάλιν εἰ τοῦ καθόλου εἰρημένου προσθεῖη καὶ  
 ἐπὶ μέρους, οἷον εἰ τὴν ἐπιείκειαν ἐλάττωσιν τῶν  
 συμφερόντων καὶ δικαίων· τὸ γὰρ δίκαιον συμ-  
 φέρον τι, ὥστε περιέχεται ἐν τῳ συμφέροντι.

Or, perhaps, there is no absurdity here. Take the statement, 'man is a biped'; then, what is the same as man will be a 'biped'; but 'pedestrian biped animal' is the same as man, and, therefore, 'pedestrian biped animal' is a 'biped.' But no absurdity really arises here; for 'biped' is not *predicated* of 'pedestrian animal' (for then 'biped' would be predicated twice of the same thing), but 'biped' is used in the description of 'pedestrian biped animal,' so that 'biped' is *predicated* only once. So likewise with 'desire' too; for that it is 'for the pleasant' is predicated not of appetite but of the whole phrase,<sup>a</sup> and so here too the predication occurs only once. The absurdity consists not in uttering the same word twice but in *predicating* the same thing more than once of anything; for example, when Xenocrates says that prudence is 'definitive and contemplative of things which exist'; for what is 'definitive' is in a way 'contemplative,' so that when he adds 'and contemplative' he is saying the same things twice. So, too, with those who say that 'cooling' is a 'privation of natural heat'; for all privation is a privation of that which is natural, so that it is superfluous to add 'natural,' but it would be enough to say 'privation of heat,' since the term 'privation' itself makes it known that the heat referred to is 'natural.'

Again, you must see whether, after a universal has been stated, he adds a particular as well, for example, if he has said that 'equity is a diminution of the expedient and the just'; for the just is something expedient, so that it is included in the expedient.

<sup>a</sup> *i.e.* of the phrase 'appetite for the pleasant.' If we predicate 'is for the pleasant' of this, only the second 'for the pleasant' is in the predicate.

141 a

περιττὸν οὖν τὸ δίκαιον, ὥστε καθόλου εἶπας ἐπὶ  
 μέρους προσέθηκεν. καὶ εἰ τὴν ἰατρικὴν ἐπι-  
 20 στήμην τῶν ὑγιεινῶν ζώῳ καὶ ἀνθρώπῳ, ἢ τὸν  
 νόμον εἰκόνα τῶν φύσει καλῶν καὶ δικαίων· τὸ  
 γὰρ δίκαιον καλόν τι, ὥστε πλεονάκεις τὸ αὐτὸ  
 λέγει.

IV. Πότερον μὲν οὖν καλῶς ἢ οὐ καλῶς, διὰ  
 τούτων καὶ τῶν τοιούτων ἐπισκεπτέον· πότερον  
 25 δ' εἴρηκε καὶ ὥριστα τὸ τί ἦν εἶναι ἢ οὐχί, ἐκ  
 τῶνδε.

Πρῶτον μὲν εἰ μὴ διὰ προτέρων καὶ γνωρι-  
 μωτέρων πεποιήται τὸν ὀρισμόν. ἐπεὶ γὰρ ὁ  
 ὅρος ἀποδίδεται τοῦ γνωρίσαι χάριν τὸ λεχθέν,  
 γνωρίζομεν δ' οὐκ ἐκ τῶν τυχόντων ἀλλ' ἐκ τῶν  
 προτέρων καὶ γνωριμωτέρων, καθάπερ ἐν ταῖς  
 30 ἀποδείξεσιν (οὕτω γὰρ πᾶσα διδασκαλία καὶ  
 μάθησις ἔχει), φανερόν ὅτι ὁ μὴ διὰ τοιούτων  
 ὀριζόμενος οὐχ ὥριστα. εἰ δὲ μή, πλείους ἔσονται  
 τοῦ αὐτοῦ ὀρισμοί. δῆλον γὰρ ὅτι καὶ ὁ διὰ  
 προτέρων καὶ γνωριμωτέρων βέλτιον ὥριστα,  
 ὥστε ἀμφοτέρω ἀν εἴησαν ὅροι τοῦ αὐτοῦ. τὸ  
 35 δὲ τοιούτον οὐ δοκεῖ· ἐκάστῳ γὰρ τῶν ὄντων ἐν  
 ἐστὶ τὸ εἶναι ὅπερ ἐστίν· ὥστ' εἰ πλείους ἔσονται  
 τοῦ αὐτοῦ ὀρισμοί, ταῦτόν ἔσται τῷ ὀριζομένῳ  
 τὸ εἶναι ὅπερ καθ' ἐκάτερον τῶν ὀρισμῶν δηλοῦται,  
 141 b ταῦτα δ' οὐ ταῦτά ἐστίν, ἐπειδὴ οἱ ὀρισμοὶ ἕτεροι.



'The just' is, therefore, superfluous, and so after stating the universal he has added the particular. So too in the definition of 'medicine' as 'knowledge of things healthful for animal and man,' or 'law' as 'the image of things naturally noble and just'; for the just is something noble, so that he is saying the same thing more than once.

IV. Whether your opponent has made a correct or an incorrect definition should be examined by these and similar methods; but whether he has stated and defined the essence or not, should be examined in the following manner:

First, you must see whether he has failed to make the definition by means of prior and more intelligible terms. For the object in assigning the definition is to make known the meaning of the subject, and we make things known by using, not any chance terms, but those which are prior and more intelligible, as we do in demonstrations (for this is true of every kind of teaching and learning); it is, therefore, obvious that the man who does not define by means of such terms has not defined at all. With any other method, there will be more than one definition of the same thing; for clearly he who has used terms which are prior and more intelligible has given another and a better definition, so that both would be definitions of the same thing. But this is not the view generally held; for everything that is has one single essence, and so, if there is to be more than one definition of the same thing, the essence, which is demonstrated in accordance with each of the definitions, will be the same for the framer of the definition; but the demonstrations of it are not the same since the definitions are different. It is, therefore, obvious

*Rules for testing whether the alleged definition really defines the essence:*

*The terms of a definition should be prior and more intelligible.*

δῆλον οὖν ὅτι οὐχ ὥρισται ὁ μὴ διὰ προτέρων  
καὶ γνωριμωτέρων ὀρισάμενος.

Τὸ μὲν οὖν μὴ διὰ γνωριμωτέρων εἰρῆσθαι τὸν  
ὅρον διχῶς ἔστιν ἐκλαβεῖν· ἢ γὰρ εἰ ἀπλῶς ἐξ  
5 ἀγνωστοτέρων ἢ εἰ ἡμῖν ἀγνωστοτέρων· ἐνδέχεται  
γὰρ ἀμφοτέρως. ἀπλῶς μὲν οὖν γνωριμώτερον  
τὸ πρότερον τοῦ ὑστέρου, οἷον στιγμὴ γραμμῆς  
καὶ γραμμὴ ἐπιπέδου καὶ ἐπίπεδον στερεοῦ, καθ-  
άπερ καὶ μονὰς ἀριθμοῦ· πρότερον γὰρ καὶ ἀρχὴ  
παντὸς ἀριθμοῦ. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ στοιχεῖον συλ-  
10 λαβῆς. ἡμῖν δ' ἀνάπαλιν ἐνίοτε συμβαίνει· μάλιστα  
γὰρ τὸ στερεὸν ὑπὸ τὴν αἴσθησιν πίπτει, τὸ δ'  
ἐπίπεδον μᾶλλον τῆς γραμμῆς, γραμμὴ δὲ σημείου  
μᾶλλον. οἱ πολλοὶ γὰρ τὰ τοιαῦτα προγνωρί-  
ζουσιν· τὰ μὲν γὰρ τῆς τυχούσης τὰ δ' ἀκριβοῦς  
καὶ περιττῆς διανοίας καταμαθεῖν ἐστίν.

15 Ἀπλῶς μὲν οὖν βέλτιον τὸ διὰ τῶν πρότερον τὰ  
ὑστερα πειρᾶσθαι γνωρίζειν· ἐπιστημονικώτερον  
γὰρ τὸ τοιοῦτόν ἐστιν. οὐ μὴν ἀλλὰ πρὸς τοὺς  
ἀδυνατοῦντας γνωρίζειν διὰ τῶν τοιούτων ἀναγ-  
καῖον ἴσως διὰ τῶν ἐκείνοις γνωρίμων ποιεῖσθαι  
τὸν λόγον. εἰσὶ δὲ τῶν τοιούτων ὀρισμῶν ὃ τε  
20 τῆς στιγμῆς καὶ ὁ τῆς γραμμῆς καὶ ὁ τοῦ ἐπι-  
πέδου· πάντες γὰρ διὰ τῶν ὑστέρων τὰ πρότερα  
δηλοῦσιν· τὸ μὲν γὰρ γραμμῆς, τὸ δ' ἐπιπέδου,  
τὸ δὲ στερεοῦ φασὶ πέρασ εἶναι. οὐ δεῖ δὲ λανθά-  
νειν ὅτι τοὺς οὕτως ὀριζομένους οὐκ ἐνδέχεται τὸ

that anyone who has not framed his definition by means of prior and more intelligible terms has not given a definition.

That the definition has not been stated in more intelligible terms can be taken in two senses, namely, that it is composed either of terms which are less intelligible absolutely or of terms which are less intelligible to us ; for both meanings are possible. Thus absolutely the prior is more intelligible than the posterior ; for example, a point is more intelligible than a line, a line than a plane, and a plane than a solid, just as also a unit is more intelligible than a number, since it is prior to and the starting-point of all number. Similarly a letter is more intelligible than a syllable. To us, however, the converse sometimes happens ; for a solid falls most under our perception, and a plane more than a line, and a line more than a point. For most people recognize such things as solids and planes before they recognize lines and points ; for the former can be grasped by an ordinary understanding, the latter only by one which is accurate and superior.

How to detect the failure to use more intelligible terms of definition.

Absolutely, then, it is better to aim at knowledge of the posterior by means of what is prior ; for such a method is more scientific. Nevertheless, for the benefit of those who are incapable of acquiring knowledge by such means, it is perhaps necessary to frame the description by means of terms which are intelligible to them. Among definitions of this kind are those of the point, the line and the plane ; for all these demonstrate the prior by means of the posterior—the point being called the limit of the line, the line that of the plane, and the plane that of the solid. We must not, however, fail to notice that it is impossible

141 b

τί ἦν εἶναι τῷ ὀριζομένῳ δηλοῦν, ἐὰν μὴ τυγχάνη  
 25 ταῦτόν ἡμῖν τε γνωριμώτερον καὶ ἀπλῶς γνωρι-  
 μώτερον, εἴπερ δεῖ μὲν διὰ τοῦ γένους καὶ τῶν  
 διαφορῶν ὀρίζεσθαι τὸν καλῶς ὀριζόμενον, ταῦτα  
 δὲ τῶν ἀπλῶς γνωριμωτέρων καὶ προτέρων τοῦ  
 εἶδους ἐστίν. συναναιρεῖ γὰρ τὸ γένος καὶ ἡ  
 διαφορὰ τὸ εἶδος, ὥστε πρότερα ταῦτα τοῦ εἶδους.  
 30 ἔστι δὲ καὶ γνωριμώτερα· τοῦ μὲν γὰρ εἶδους  
 γνωριζομένου ἀνάγκη καὶ τὸ γένος καὶ τὴν δια-  
 φορὰν γνωρίζεσθαι (ὁ γὰρ ἄνθρωπον γνωρίζειν  
 καὶ ζῶον καὶ πεζὸν γνωρίζει), τοῦ δὲ γένους ἢ  
 τῆς διαφορᾶς γνωριζομένης οὐκ ἀνάγκη καὶ τὸ  
 εἶδος γνωρίζεσθαι, ὥστε ἀγνωστότερον τὸ εἶδος.  
 ἔτι τοῖς κατ' ἀλήθειαν τοὺς τοιούτους ὀρισμοὺς  
 35 φάσκουσιν εἶναι, τοὺς ἐκ τῶν ἐκάστω γνωρίμων,  
 πολλοὺς τοῦ αὐτοῦ συμβήσεται λέγειν ὀρισμοὺς  
 εἶναι· ἕτερα γὰρ ἑτέροις καὶ οὐ ταῦτὰ πᾶσι τυγ-  
 χάνει γνωριμώτερα ὄντα, ὥστε πρὸς ἕκαστον  
 142 a ἕτερος ἂν εἴη ὀρισμὸς ἀποδοτέος, εἴπερ ἐκ τῶν  
 ἐκάστοις γνωριμωτέρων τὸν ὀρισμὸν ποιῆσθαι  
 χρή. ἔτι τοῖς αὐτοῖς ἄλλοτ' ἄλλα μᾶλλον γνώριμα,  
 ἐξ ἀρχῆς μὲν τὰ αἰσθητά, ἀκριβεστέροις δὲ γινο-  
 5 μένοις ἀνάπαλιν, ὥστ' οὐδὲ πρὸς τὸν αὐτὸν αἰεὶ  
 ὁ αὐτὸς ὀρισμὸς ἀποδοτέος τοῖς διὰ τῶν ἐκάστοις  
 γνωριμωτέρων τὸν ὀρισμὸν φάσκουσιν ἀποδοτέον  
 578



for those who define in this way to show the essence of the subject of their definition, unless it so happens that the same thing is both more intelligible to us and also more intelligible absolutely ; for the framer of a good definition must define by means of the genus and the differentiae, and these are among the things which are more intelligible absolutely than the species and prior to it ; for the genus and the differentia cancel the species and therefore are prior to it. They are also more intelligible ; for, if the species is known, both the genus and the differentia must also be known (for he who has knowledge of ' man ' has also knowledge of ' animal ' and ' pedestrian '). On the other hand, if the genus and the differentia are known, it does not necessarily follow that the species is also known ; the species, therefore, is less intelligible. Furthermore, those who declare that such definitions, namely, those which are based on what is known to individual persons, accord with the truth, will, as a result, have to say that there are many definitions of the same thing ; for different things are more intelligible to different people, and not the same things equally intelligible to all ; and so a different definition would have to be given to each individual, if the definition has to be framed as the basis of what is more intelligible to each of them. Furthermore, to the same persons different things are more intelligible at different times—first of all the objects of sense-perception, and then, when their knowledge becomes more accurate, the converse occurs ; and so neither would the same definition always have to be given to the same person by those who say that a definition ought to be given by means of what is more intelligible to each individual. It

- εἶναι. δῆλον οὖν ὅτι οὐχ ὀριστέον διὰ τῶν τοιούτων, ἀλλὰ διὰ τῶν ἀπλῶς γνωριμωτέρων· μόνως γὰρ ἂν οὕτως εἰς καὶ ὁ αὐτὸς ὀρισμὸς αἰεὶ γίνοιτο. ἴσως δὲ καὶ τὸ ἀπλῶς γνώριμον οὐ τὸ πᾶσι  
 10 γνώριμόν ἐστιν, ἀλλὰ τὸ τοῖς εὖ διακειμένοις τὴν διάνοιαν, καθάπερ καὶ τὸ ἀπλῶς ὑγιεινὸν τὸ τοῖς εὖ ἔχουσι τὸ σῶμα. δεῖ μὲν οὖν ἕκαστα τῶν τοιούτων ἐξακριβοῦν, χρῆσθαι δὲ διαλεγομένους πρὸς τὸ συμφέρον. μάλιστα δ' ὁμολογουμένως ἀναιρεῖν ἐνδέχεται τὸν ὀρισμὸν, ἔαν μὴτ' ἐκ τῶν  
 15 ἀπλῶς γνωριμωτέρων μὴτ' ἐκ τῶν ἡμῖν τυγχάνῃ τὸν λόγον πεποιημένους.

Εἰς μὲν οὖν τρόπος τοῦ μὴ διὰ γνωριμωτέρων ἐστὶ τὸ διὰ τῶν ὑστέρων τὰ πρότερα δηλοῦν, καθάπερ πρότερον εἴπαμεν· ἄλλος, εἰ τοῦ ἐν ἡρεμίᾳ καὶ τοῦ ὠρισμένου διὰ τοῦ ἀορίστου καὶ  
 20 τοῦ ἐν κινήσει ἀποδέδοται ὁ λόγος· πρότερον γὰρ τὸ μένον καὶ τὸ ὠρισμένον τοῦ ἀορίστου καὶ ἐν κινήσει ὄντος.

Τοῦ δὲ μὴ ἐκ προτέρων τρεῖς εἰσὶ τρόποι, πρῶτος μὲν εἰ διὰ τοῦ ἀντικειμένου τὸ ἀντικείμενον ὥριται, οἷον διὰ τοῦ κακοῦ τὸ ἀγαθόν· ἅμα γὰρ  
 25 τῇ φύσει τὰ ἀντικείμενα. ἐνίοις δὲ καὶ ἡ αὐτὴ ἐπιστήμη ἀμφοτέρων δοκεῖ εἶναι, ὥστ' οὐδὲ γνωριμώτερον τὸ ἕτερον τοῦ ἑτέρου. δεῖ δὲ μὴ λανθάνειν ὅτι ἔνια ἴσως οὐκ ἔστιν ὀρίσασθαι ἄλλως, οἷον τὸ διπλάσιον ἄνευ τοῦ ἡμίσεος, καὶ ὅσα καθ' αὐτὰ πρὸς τι λέγεται· πᾶσι γὰρ τοῖς

is obvious, therefore, that definitions ought not to be made by means of terms of this kind but by means of those which are more intelligible absolutely ; for only thus could one and the same definition be always produced. Perhaps, also, what is intelligible absolutely is what is intelligible not to everyone but only to those who are intellectually in a sound condition, just as also what is healthy absolutely is what is healthy to those who are physically in a sound condition. All such points must be accurately observed and used in discussion as circumstances demand. But the subversion of a definition is most generally admitted to be possible, if the definer happens to have framed his description neither from what is more intelligible absolutely nor from what is more intelligible to us.

One way, then, of not defining by means of more intelligible terms is to demonstrate the prior by means of the posterior, as we said before.<sup>a</sup> Another way consists in having rendered the description of what is at rest and definite by means of what is indefinite and in motion ; for what stays still and is definite is prior to what is indefinite and in motion.

There are three ways of failing to define by means of prior terms. (a) The first is when an opposite has been defined by means of its opposite, for example, good by means of evil ; for opposites are naturally simultaneous. In the view of some people, too, there is the same knowledge of both, so that the one is not more intelligible than the other. We must not, however, fail to notice that it is perhaps impossible to define some things in any other way. We cannot, for example, define the double without the half, and the same is true also of things which are described as

How to detect the failure to use prior terms of definition.

142 a

τοιούτοις ταῦτόν τὸ εἶναι τῷ πρὸς τί πως ἔχειν,  
 30 ὥστ' ἀδύνατον ἄνευ θατέρου θάτερον γνωρίζειν,  
 διόπερ ἀναγκαῖον ἐν τῷ τοῦ ἐτέρου λόγῳ συμ-  
 περιειληφθαι καὶ θάτερον. γνωρίζειν μὲν οὖν  
 δεῖ τὰ τοιαῦτα πάντα, χρῆσθαι δ' αὐτοῖς ὡς ἂν  
 δοκῇ συμφέρειν.

Ἄλλος, εἰ αὐτῷ κέχρηται τῷ ὀριζομένῳ. λαν-  
 35 θάνει δ', ὅταν μὴ αὐτῷ τῷ τοῦ ὀριζομένου ὀνόματι  
 142 b χρήσῃται, οἷον εἰ τὸν ἥλιον ἄστρον ἡμεροφανὲς  
 ὠρίσατο· ὁ γὰρ ἡμέρα χρώμενος ἡλίῳ χρήται. δεῖ  
 δ' ὅπως φωραθῇ τὰ τοιαῦτα μεταλαμβάνειν ἀντὶ  
 τοῦ ὀνόματος τὸν λόγον, οἷον ὅτι ἡμέρα ἡλίου  
 φορὰ ὑπὲρ γῆς ἐστίν· δηλὸν γὰρ ὅτι ὁ τὴν φορὰν  
 5 ἡλίου ὑπὲρ γῆς εἰρηκῶς τὸν ἥλιον εἴρηκεν, ὥστε  
 κέχρηται τῷ ἡλίῳ ὁ τῇ ἡμέρᾳ χρησάμενος.

Πάλιν εἰ τῷ ἀντιδιηρημένῳ τὸ ἀντιδιηρημένον  
 ὠρίσται, οἷον περιττὸν τὸ μονάδι μείζον ἀρτίου.  
 ἅμα γὰρ τῇ φύσει τὰ ἐκ τοῦ αὐτοῦ γένους ἀντιδι-  
 10 ηρημένα, τὸ δὲ περιττὸν καὶ ἄρτιον ἀντιδιήρηται·  
 ἅμφω γὰρ ἀριθμοῦ διαφοραί.

Ὅμοίως δὲ καὶ εἰ διὰ τῶν ὑποκάτω τὸ ἐπάνω  
 ὠρίσται, οἷον ἄρτιον ἀριθμὸν τὸν δίχα διαιρούμενον

<sup>a</sup> See 136 b 3 ff.



in themselves relative ; for in all such things their being is the same as a certain relation in which they stand to something, so that it is impossible to recognize the one without the other and, therefore, necessary that the one should also be included in the description of the other. We must, therefore, take cognizance of all such facts and make use of them as seems expedient.

(b) Another way is when the term which is being defined is used in the definition itself. This passes unobserved when the actual name of the object which is being defined is not employed, for example, if one has defined the sun as ' a star appearing by day ' ; for in introducing the day one introduces the sun. For the detection of this kind of practice we must substitute the description for the name, saying, for example, that ' day ' is ' the passage of the sun over the earth ' ; for it is obvious that a man who has spoken of ' the passage of the sun over the earth ' has spoken of ' the sun,' so he who has introduced ' the day ' has introduced ' the sun.'

(c) Again, you must see whether your opponent has defined one of the opposite members of corresponding divisions <sup>a</sup> by means of another, for example, if he has defined ' an odd number ' as ' one which is greater by a unit than an even number.' For the opposite numbers of corresponding divisions taken from the same genus are by nature simultaneous, and ' odd ' and ' even ' are opposite members of corresponding divisions, for both are differentiae of number.

(d) Similarly also, you must see whether he has defined a superior by means of subordinates, for example, if he has defined an ' even number ' as ' a number divisible into two parts ' or ' the good ' as ' a

ἢ τὸ ἀγαθὸν ἔξιν ἀρετῆς· τό τε γὰρ δίχα ἀπὸ τῶν δύο εἴληπται, ἀρτίων ὄντων, καὶ ἡ ἀρετὴ ἀγαθόν τί ἐστίν, ὥσθ' ὑποκάτω ταῦτα ἐκείνων ἐστίν. 15 ἔτι δ' ἀνάγκη τὸν τῷ ὑποκάτω χρώμενον καὶ αὐτῷ χρῆσθαι. ὃ τε γὰρ τῇ ἀρετῇ χρώμενος χρῆται τῷ ἀγαθῷ, ἐπειδὴ ἀγαθόν τι ἡ ἀρετή· ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ὁ τῷ δίχα χρώμενος τῷ ἀρτίῳ χρῆται, ἐπειδὴ εἰς δύο διηρῆσθαι σημαίνει τὸ δίχα, τὰ δὲ δύο ἄρτιά ἐστίν.

20 V. Καθόλου μὲν οὖν εἰπεῖν εἰς ἐστὶ τόπος τὸ μὴ διὰ προτέρων καὶ γνωριμωτέρων ποιήσασθαι τὸν λόγον, μέρη δ' αὐτοῦ τὰ εἰρημένα. δεύτερος, εἰ ἐν γένει τοῦ πράγματος ὄντος μὴ κεῖται ἐν γένει. ἐν ἅπασιν δὲ τὸ τοιοῦτον ἀμάρτημά ἐστίν, ἐν οἷς οὐ πρόκειται τοῦ λόγου τὸ τί ἐστίν, οἷον ὁ τοῦ σώ- 25 ματος ὁρισμός, τὸ ἔχον τρεῖς διαστάσεις, ἢ εἴ τις τὸν ἄνθρωπον ὀρίσαιοτο τὸ ἐπιστάμενον ἀριθμεῖν. οὐ γὰρ εἴρηται τί ὄν τρεῖς ἔχει διαστάσεις ἢ τί ὄν ἐπίσταται ἀριθμεῖν· τὸ δὲ γένος βούλεται τὸ τί ἐστὶ σημαίνειν, καὶ πρῶτον ὑποτίθεται τῶν ἐν τῷ ὀρισμῷ λεγομένων.

30 Ἔτι εἰ πρὸς πλείω λεγομένου τοῦ ὀριζομένου μὴ πρὸς πάντα ἀποδέδωκεν, οἷον εἰ τὴν γραμματικὴν ἐπιστήμην τοῦ γράφαι τὸ ὑπαγορευθέν· προσδεῖται γὰρ ὅτι καὶ τοῦ ἀναγνῶναι· οὐδὲν γὰρ 584

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state of virtue.' For the expression 'into two parts' is taken from 'two,' which is an even number, and virtue is a kind of good ; so that the former terms are subordinate to the latter. Further, in introducing the subordinate term, one is obliged to introduce the term itself also ; for he who introduces the term 'virtue' introduces 'the good,' since virtue is a kind of good ; and similarly, too, he who introduces the phrase 'into two parts' introduces 'even,' for division 'into two parts' signifies division by two, and two is an even number.

V. Speaking generally, then, one commonplace concerns the failure to frame the description by means of prior and more intelligible terms, and the above are the divisions into which it falls. A second commonplace is to see whether, though the subject of the definition falls under a genus, it has not been placed in a genus. This kind of error always occurs in cases where the essence is not put first in the description, for example, in the definition of 'body' as 'that which has three dimensions,' or the definition of 'man,' if it were to be given as 'that which knows how to count.' For no statement has been given what it is that has three dimensions or what it is that knows how to count ; whereas the genus aims at signifying what it is and is the first thing to be laid down in the description contained in the definition.

Furthermore, you must see whether, though the term which is being defined applies to a number of things, your opponent has failed to apply it to all of them ; for example, if he has defined 'grammar' as 'the knowledge of writing from dictation' ; for he ought to add that it is also the knowledge of reading.

*Rules as to  
the use of  
genus in  
definition :*

(a) Observe  
whether  
the genus  
is omitted.

(b) Observe  
whether the  
definition is  
applied to  
everything  
which comes  
under the  
subject  
of the  
definition.

142 b

μᾶλλον τοῦ γράφαι ἢ τοῦ ἀναγνῶναι ἀποδοὺς ὤρι-  
 σται, ὥστ' οὐδέτερος, ἀλλ' ὁ ἄμφω ταῦτ' εἰπὼν,  
 35 ἐπειδὴ πλείους οὐκ ἐνδέχεται ταῦτοῦ ὀρισμοὺς  
 143 a εἶναι. ἐπ' ἐνίων μὲν οὖν κατ' ἀλήθειαν ἔχει καθ-  
 ἀπερ εἴρηται, ἐπ' ἐνίων δ' οὐ, οἷον ἐφ' ὅσων μὴ  
 καθ' αὐτὸ πρὸς ἄμφω λέγεται, καθάπερ ἰατρικὴ  
 τοῦ νόσον καὶ ὑγίειαν ποιῆσαι· τοῦ μὲν γὰρ καθ'  
 αὐτὴν λέγεται, τοῦ δὲ κατὰ συμβεβηκός· ἀπλῶς  
 5 γὰρ ἀλλότριον τῆς ἰατρικῆς τὸ νόσον ποιεῖν. ὥστ'  
 οὐδὲν μᾶλλον ὤρισται ὁ πρὸς ἄμφω ἀποδοὺς τοῦ  
 πρὸς θάτερον, ἀλλ' ἴσως καὶ χεῖρον, ἐπειδὴ καὶ  
 τῶν λοιπῶν ὅστισοῦν δυνατός ἐστι νόσον ποιῆσαι.

Ἔτι εἰ μὴ πρὸς τὸ βέλτιον ἀλλὰ πρὸς τὸ χεῖρον  
 10 ἀποδέδωκε, πλειόνων ὄντων πρὸς ἃ λέγεται τὸ  
 ὀριζόμενον· πᾶσα γὰρ ἐπιστήμη καὶ δύναμις τοῦ  
 βελτίστου δοκεῖ εἶναι.

Πάλιν εἰ μὴ κεῖται ἐν τῷ οἰκείῳ γένει τὸ λεχθέν,  
 σκοπεῖν ἐκ τῶν περὶ τὰ γένη στοιχείων, καθάπερ  
 πρότερον εἴρηται.

• 15 Ἔτι εἰ ὑπερβαίνων<sup>1</sup> λέγει τὰ γένη, οἷον ὁ τὴν  
 δικαιουσύνην ἕξιν ἰσότητος ποιητικὴν ἢ διανεμη-  
 τικὴν τοῦ ἴσου. ὑπερβαίνει γὰρ οὕτως ὀριζόμενος

<sup>1</sup> Bekker's ὑπερβαίνειν a misprint for ὑπερβαίνων.



For in describing it as ' a knowledge of writing ' he has no more given a definition than he who has called it ' a knowledge of reading,' so that neither of them has given a definition, but only he who makes both these statements, since there cannot be more than one definition of the same thing. In some cases, to be sure, the above statement accords with the truth but not in others, for example, where the term is not essentially applicable to both things, for instance in the definition of medicine as concerned with the production of disease and health. For it is said to do the latter essentially, the former only accidentally, since it is absolutely foreign to medicine to produce disease. So he who has described medicine in reference to both health and disease has given no better a definition than he who has done so in reference to one of them only ; nay, he has perhaps even given a worse definition, since anyone else who is not a doctor is capable of producing disease.

Furthermore, when there are more things than one to which the term which is being defined is applicable, you must see whether he has assigned it in reference not to the better but to the worse ; for every kind of knowledge and capacity is generally regarded as concerned with the best.

Again, if the term which has been described is not placed in its appropriate genus, you must examine it according to the elementary rules regarding genera, as has been said above.<sup>a</sup>

Furthermore, you must see whether in his description he passes over the genera, for example, when he defines justice as ' a state productive of equality,' or ' distributive of what is equal ' ; for by such a defini-

(c) Observe whether the subject of the definition is referred not to the better but to the worse.

(d) Observe whether the genus is not rightly constituted.

(e) Observe whether there is a failure to put the subject in

<sup>a</sup> 139 b 3.

143 a

τὴν ἀρετὴν. ἀπολιπὼν οὖν τὸ τῆς δικαιοσύνης  
γένος οὐ λέγει τὸ τί ἦν εἶναι· ἢ γὰρ οὐσία ἐκάστω  
μετὰ τοῦ γένους. ἔστι δὲ τοῦτο ταῦτόν τῳ μὴ εἰς  
20 τὸ ἐγγυτάτῳ γένος θεῖναι· ὁ γὰρ εἰς τὸ ἐγγυτάτῳ  
θεῖς πάντα τὰ ἐπάνω εἴρηκεν, ἐπειδὴ πάντα  
τὰ ἐπάνω γένῃ τῶν ὑποκάτω κατηγορεῖται. ὥστ'  
ἢ εἰς τὸ ἐγγυτάτῳ γένος θετέον, ἢ πάσας τὰς  
διαφορὰς τῳ ἐπάνω γένει προσαπτεόν, δι' ὧν  
ὀρίζεται τὸ ἐγγυτάτῳ γένος. οὕτω γὰρ οὐδὲν  
25 ἂν εἴη παραλελοιπώς, ἀλλ' ἀντ' ὀνόματος λόγῳ  
εἰρηκὼς ἂν εἴη τὸ ὑποκάτῳ γένος. ὁ δ' αὐτὸ μό-  
νον τὸ ἐπάνω γένος εἶπας οὐ λέγει καὶ τὸ ὑπο-  
κάτῳ γένος· ὁ γὰρ φυτὸν εἶπας οὐ λέγει δένδρον.

VI. Πάλιν ἐπὶ τῶν διαφορῶν ὁμοίως σκεπτέον  
30 εἰ καὶ τὰς διαφορὰς εἶπε τὰς τοῦ γένους. εἰ γὰρ  
μὴ ταῖς τοῦ πράγματος ἰδίαις ὥρισται διαφοραῖς,  
ἢ καὶ παντελῶς τοιοῦτον εἴρηκεν ὁ μηδενὸς ἐνδέ-  
χεται διαφορὰν εἶναι, οἷον τὸ ζῶον ἢ τὴν οὐσίαν,  
δῆλον ὅτι οὐχ ὥρισται· οὐδενὸς γὰρ διαφοραὶ τὰ  
εἰρημένα. ὁρᾷν δὲ καὶ εἰ ἔστιν ἀντιδιηρημένον  
35 τι τῇ εἰρημένῃ διαφορᾷ. εἰ γὰρ μή ἐστι, δῆλον  
ὅτι οὐκ ἂν εἴη ἡ εἰρημένη τοῦ γένους διαφορά·

143 b πᾶν γὰρ γένος ταῖς ἀντιδιηρημέναις διαφοραῖς  
διαιρεῖται, καθάπερ τὸ ζῶον τῳ πεζῳ καὶ τῳ  
πτυνῳ καὶ τῳ ἐνύδρῳ καὶ τῳ δίποδι. ἢ εἰ ἔστι  
μὲν ἡ ἀντιδιηρημένη διαφορά, μὴ ἀληθεύεται δὲ  
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tion he passes over virtue, and so by omitting the genus of justice he fails to state its essence ; for the essence of a thing involves its genus. This amounts to the same thing as not putting the subject into its nearest genus ; for he who has put it into the nearest genus has stated all the higher genera, since all the higher genera are predicated of the lower. Either, therefore, it ought to put into the nearest genus, or else all the differentiae, through which the nearest genus is defined, ought to be added to the higher genus. By so doing he would not have omitted anything, but would have stated the lower genus instead of mentioning the name. But he who has merely stated the higher genus by itself does not state the lower genus also ; for he who calls a thing a ' plant ' does not call it a ' tree.'

VI. Again, you must, in like manner, consider, as regards differentiae, whether he has stated the differentiae too as those of the genus. For, if he has not framed his definition by means of the differentiae peculiar to the subject, or else has stated something such as cannot possibly be a differentia of anything at all (for example ' animal ' or ' substance '), it is obvious that he has not given a definition ; for the above terms are not differentiae of anything. Also you must see whether there is an opposite member of a division corresponding to the differentia stated ; for, if not, obviously the differentia stated could not be a differentia of the genus ; for every genus is distinguished by differentiae which are the opposite members of a corresponding division, for example, ' animal ' by the terms ' pedestrian,' ' winged,' ' aquatic ' and ' biped.' Or else you must see whether the corresponding differentia exists but is not true of the

its nearest genus.

*Rules as to the use of differentiae in definition :*

(a) The ratio of difference must be considered.

κατὰ τοῦ γένους. δῆλον γὰρ ὅτι οὐδετέρα ἂν εἴη  
 5 τοῦ γένους διαφορά· πᾶσαι γὰρ αἱ ἀντιδιηρημένα  
 διαφοραὶ ἀληθεύονται κατὰ τοῦ οἰκείου γένους.  
 ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ εἰ ἀληθεύεται μὲν, μὴ ποιεῖ δὲ  
 προστιθεμένη τῷ γένει εἶδος. δῆλον γὰρ ὅτι οὐκ  
 ἂν εἴη αὕτη εἰδοποιὸς διαφορά τοῦ γένους· πᾶσα  
 γὰρ εἰδοποιὸς διαφορά μετὰ τοῦ γένους εἶδος  
 10 ποιεῖ. εἰ δ' αὕτη μὴ ἐστὶ διαφορά, οὐδ' ἡ λεχθεῖσα,  
 ἐπεὶ ταύτη ἀντιδιήρηται.

Ἔτι ἐὰν ἀποφάσκει διαιρῇ τὸ γένος, καθάπερ οἱ  
 τὴν γραμμὴν ὀρίζομενοι μῆκος ἀπλατὲς εἶναι.  
 οὐδὲν γὰρ ἄλλο σημαίνει ἢ ὅτι οὐκ ἔχει πλάτος.  
 συμβήσεται οὖν τὸ γένος μετέχειν τοῦ εἶδους·  
 15 πᾶν γὰρ μῆκος ἢ ἀπλατὲς ἢ πλάτος ἔχον ἐστίν,  
 ἐπεὶ κατὰ παντὸς ἢ ἡ κατάφασις ἢ ἡ ἀπόφασις  
 ἀληθεύεται, ὥστε καὶ τὸ γένος τῆς γραμμῆς μῆκος  
 ὄν ἢ ἀπλατὲς ἢ πλάτος ἔχον ἔσται. μῆκος δ'  
 ἀπλατὲς εἶδους ἐστὶ λόγος, ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ μῆκος  
 πλάτος ἔχον· τὸ γὰρ ἀπλατὲς καὶ πλάτος ἔχον  
 20 διαφοραὶ εἰσιν, ἐκ δὲ τῆς διαφορᾶς καὶ τοῦ γένους  
 ὁ τοῦ εἶδους ἐστὶ λόγος, ὥστε τὸ γένος ἐπιδέχοιτ'  
 ἂν τὸν τοῦ εἶδους λόγον. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ τὸν τῆς  
 διαφορᾶς, ἐπειδὴ ἡ ἑτέρα τῶν εἰρημένων διαφορῶν  
 ἐξ ἀνάγκης κατηγορεῖται τοῦ γένους. ἐστὶ δ'  
 ὁ εἰρημένος τόπος χρήσιμος πρὸς τοὺς τιθεμένους  
 25 ἰδέας εἶναι. εἰ γὰρ ἐστὶν αὐτὸ μῆκος, πῶς κατ-  
 ηγορηθήσεται κατὰ τοῦ γένους ὅτι πλάτος ἔχον  
 ἐστὶν ἢ ἀπλατὲς ἐστίν; δεῖ γὰρ κατὰ παντὸς  
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genus ; for then obviously neither of them could be a differentia of the genus ; for all the corresponding differentiae are true of the proper genus. In like manner, too, you must see whether, though it is true, yet its addition to the genus does not make a species. For then it is obvious that this could not be a specific differentia of the genus ; for a specific differentia, combined with the genus, always makes a species. But, if this is not a differentia, neither is the one which has been stated, since it is an opposite member of a division corresponding with this.

Furthermore, you must see whether he divides the genus by means of a negation, as do those who define ' line ' as ' length without breadth ' ; for this simply signifies that it has not breadth. The result, therefore, will be that the genus partakes of its species ; for, since either the affirmation or the negation is true of everything, length must always either be without breadth or possess breadth, and so the genus of ' line,' which is ' length,' will also either be without breadth or possess breadth. But ' length without breadth ' is a description of a species, as similarly also is ' length with breadth ' ; for ' without breadth ' and ' with breadth ' are differentiae, and the description of the species is made up of the differentia and the genus ; and so the genus would admit of the description of the species. Similarly, too, it would admit of the description of the differentia, since one of the above differentiae is necessarily predicated of the genus. The above commonplace is useful in dealing with those who assert that ' ideas ' exist ; for, if absolute length exists, how is it to be predicated of the genus that it is possessed of breadth or that it is without breadth ? For one of these two state-

(b) Observe whether the genus is divided by negation.

μήκους τὸ ἕτερον αὐτῶν ἀληθεύεσθαι, εἴπερ κατὰ τοῦ γένους ἀληθεύεσθαι μέλλει. τοῦτο δ' οὐ συμβαίνει· ἔστι γὰρ ἀπλατῇ καὶ πλάτος ἔχοντα μήκη.  
 30 ὥστε πρὸς ἐκείνους μόνους χρήσιμος ὁ τόπος, οἱ πᾶν<sup>1</sup> γένος ἐν ἀριθμῷ φασὶν εἶναι. τοῦτο δὲ ποιοῦσιν οἱ τὰς ἰδέας τιθέμενοι· αὐτὸ γὰρ μῆκος καὶ αὐτὸ ζῶον γένος φασὶν εἶναι.

Ἴσως δ' ἐπ' ἐνίων ἀναγκαῖον καὶ ἀποφάσει χρῆσθαι τὸν ὀριζόμενον, οἷον ἐπὶ τῶν στερήσεων·  
 35 τυφλὸν γὰρ ἔστι τὸ μὴ ἔχον ὄψιν, ὅτε πέφυκεν ἔχειν. διαφέρει δ' οὐδὲν ἀποφάσει διελεῖν τὸ γένος, ἢ τοιαύτῃ καταφάσει ἢ ἀπόφασιν ἀναγκαῖον ἀντιδιαίρεισθαι, οἷον εἰ μῆκος πλάτος ἔχον ὠρίσται· τῷ γὰρ πλάτος ἔχοντι τὸ μὴ ἔχον πλάτος ἀντιδιήρηται, ἄλλο δ' οὐδέν, ὥστε ἀποφάσει πάλιν διαίρεται τὸ γένος.

5 Πάλιν εἰ τὸ εἶδος ὡς διαφορὰν ἀπέδωκε, καθάπερ οἱ τὸν προπηλακισμόν ὕβριν μετὰ χλευασίας ὀριζόμενοι· ἢ γὰρ χλευασία ὕβρις τις, ὥστ' οὐ διαφορὰ ἀλλ' εἶδος ἢ χλευασία.

Ἔτι εἰ τὸ γένος ὡς διαφορὰν εἴρηκεν, οἷον τὴν  
 10 ἀρετὴν ἔξιν ἀγαθὴν ἢ σπουδαίαν· γένος γὰρ τὰγαθὸν τῆς ἀρετῆς ἐστίν. ἢ οὐ γένος τὰγαθόν, ἀλλὰ διαφορά, εἴπερ ἀληθὲς ὅτι οὐκ ἐνδέχεται ταῦτὸν ἐν δύο γένεσιν εἶναι μὴ περιέχουσιν ἀλλήλα. οὔτε γὰρ τὰγαθὸν τὴν ἔξιν περιέχει οὔθ'

<sup>1</sup> Reading πᾶν with AB for τὸ.

ments must be true of every length, if it is going to be true of the genus. This, however, does not happen; for there are lengths without breadth and lengths possessing breadth. This commonplace, therefore, is useful only in dealing with those who say that every genus is numerically one; and this is what those do who assert the existence of 'ideas'; for they say that absolute length and absolute animal are the genus.

Perhaps in some cases the definer must necessarily use negation, for example, in defining privations. For 'blind' is that which does not possess sight when it is its nature to possess it. But there is no difference between dividing the genus by means of a negation and by means of such an affirmation as must necessarily have a negation in the opposite member of a corresponding division, for example, when a definition has been given as 'length possessing breadth'; for the opposite member of the corresponding division to that which possesses breadth is that which does not possess breadth, and nothing else, so that again the genus is divided by a negation.

[Note on an exceptional case.]

Again, you must see whether he has assigned the species as a differentia, as do those who define 'contumely' as 'insolence combined with scoffing'; for scoffing is a kind of insolence, and so scoffing is not a differentia but a species.

(c) Observe whether the species or the genus is assigned as a differentia.

Moreover, you must see whether he has stated the genus as a differentia, saying, for example, that 'virtue is a good or worthy state'; for 'good' is the genus of 'virtue.' Or perhaps 'good' is not the genus but the differentia, if indeed it is true that it is impossible for the same thing to be in two genera one of which does not include the other; for 'good' does not include 'state,' nor does 'state' include

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ἡ ἕξις τὰγαθόν· οὐ γὰρ πᾶσα ἕξις ἀγαθόν, οὐδὲ  
 15 πᾶν ἀγαθόν ἕξις, ὥστ' οὐκ ἂν εἴη γένη ἀμφότερα.  
 εἰ οὖν ἡ ἕξις τῆς ἀρετῆς γένος, δῆλον ὅτι τὰγαθόν  
 οὐ γένος, ἀλλὰ μᾶλλον διαφορά. ἔτι ἡ μὲν ἕξις  
 τί ἐστὶ σημαίνει ἡ ἀρετή, τὸ δ' ἀγαθόν οὐ τί ἐστὶν  
 ἀλλὰ ποιόν· δοκεῖ δ' ἡ διαφορά ποιόν τι σημαίνειν.  
 20 Ὅρᾶν δὲ καὶ εἰ μὴ ποιόν τι ἀλλὰ τόδε σημαίνει  
 ἡ ἀποδοθεῖσα διαφορά· δοκεῖ γὰρ ποιόν τι πᾶσα  
 διαφορά δηλοῦν.

Σκοπεῖν δὲ καὶ εἰ κατὰ συμβεβηκὸς ὑπάρχει τῷ  
 ὀριζομένῳ ἡ διαφορά. οὐδεμία γὰρ διαφορά τῶν  
 25 κατὰ συμβεβηκὸς ὑπαρχόντων ἐστί, καθάπερ οὐδὲ  
 τὸ γένος· οὐ γὰρ ἐνδέχεται τὴν διαφορὰν ὑπάρχειν  
 τινὶ καὶ μὴ ὑπάρχειν.

Ἔτι εἰ κατηγορεῖται τοῦ γένους ἡ διαφορά ἢ  
 τὸ εἶδος ἢ τῶν κάτωθέν τι τοῦ εἶδους, οὐκ ἂν εἴη  
 30 ὠρισμένος· οὐδὲν γὰρ τῶν εἰρημένων ἐνδέχεται τοῦ  
 γένους κατηγορεῖσθαι, ἐπειδὴ τὸ γένος ἐπὶ πλείστον  
 πάντων λέγεται. πάλιν εἰ κατηγορεῖται τὸ γένος  
 τῆς διαφορᾶς· οὐ γὰρ κατὰ τῆς διαφορᾶς, ἀλλὰ  
 καθ' ὧν ἡ διαφορά, τὸ γένος δοκεῖ κατηγορεῖσθαι,  
 οἷον τὸ ζῶον κατὰ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου καὶ τοῦ βοῦς  
 35 καὶ τῶν ἄλλων πέζων ζώων, οὐκ αὐτῆς τῆς δια-  
 φορᾶς τῆς κατὰ τοῦ εἶδους λεγομένης. εἰ γὰρ  
 καθ' ἐκάστης τῶν διαφορῶν τὸ ζῶον κατηγορη-  
 θήσεται, πολλὰ ζῶα τοῦ εἶδους ἂν κατηγοροῖτο.  
 144 b αἱ γὰρ διαφοραὶ τοῦ εἶδους κατηγοροῦνται. ἔτι



'good,' for not every 'state' is 'good' nor every 'good' a 'state.' They could not, therefore, both be genera, and so, if 'state' is the genus of virtue, obviously 'good' is not its genus but rather a differentia. Furthermore, a 'state' indicates the essence of virtue, whereas 'good' indicates not the essence but a quality; and it is generally held that it is the differentia which indicates a quality.

You must also see whether the differentia assigned indicates not a quality but a particular thing; for it is generally held that the differentia always signifies a quality.

(d) Observe whether the differentia signifies a particular thing, or has the notion of an accident.

You must also consider whether the differentia belongs accidentally to the subject of the definition. For no differentia is of the number of things which belong accidentally, as neither is the genus; for it is impossible for the differentia to belong to something and also not to belong.

Furthermore, if the differentia or the species or anything that falls under the species is predicated of the genus, the definer cannot have given a definition; for none of the above can be predicated of the genus, since the genus has the widest field of all. Again, you must see whether the genus is predicated of the differentia; for it is generally held that the genus is predicated, not of the differentia, but of the things of which the differentia is predicated. For example, 'animal' is predicated of 'man' and of 'ox' and of the other pedestrian animals, not of the differentia itself, which is predicated of the species. For, if 'animal' is going to be predicated of each of the differentiae, a number of animals would be predicated of the species; for the differentiae are predicated of the species. Further, all differentiae

(e) Observe whether differentia or species be predicated of genus or genus of differentia, or species of differentia.

διαφοραὶ πᾶσαι ἢ εἶδη ἢ ἄτομα ἔσται, εἴπερ ζῶα·  
ἕκαστον γὰρ τῶν ζώων ἢ εἰδός ἐστίν ἢ ἄτομον.

Ὅμοίως δὲ σκεπτέον καὶ εἰ τὸ εἶδος ἢ τῶν  
5 ὑποκάτω τι τοῦ εἶδους τῆς διαφορᾶς κατηγορεῖται·  
ἀδύνατον γάρ, ἐπειδὴ ἐπὶ πλεόν ἢ διαφορὰ τῶν  
εἰδῶν λέγεται. ἔτι συμβήσεται τὴν διαφορὰν εἶ-  
δος εἶναι, εἴπερ κατηγορεῖται τι αὐτῆς τῶν εἰδῶν·  
εἰ γὰρ κατηγορεῖται ἄνθρωπος, δῆλον ὅτι ἡ δια-  
φορὰ ἄνθρωπος ἐστίν. πάλιν εἰ μὴ πρότερον ἢ  
10 διαφορὰ τοῦ εἶδους· τοῦ μὲν γὰρ γένους ὕστερον,  
τοῦ δ' εἶδους πρότερον τὴν διαφορὰν δεῖ εἶναι.

Σκοπεῖν δὲ καὶ εἰ ἐτέρου γένους ἢ ῥηθεῖσα δια-  
φορὰ μὴ περιεχομένου μηδὲ περιέχοντος. οὐ  
δοκεῖ γὰρ ἢ αὕτη διαφορὰ δύο γενῶν εἶναι μὴ  
15 περιεχόντων ἄλληλα. εἰ δὲ μή, συμβήσεται καὶ  
εἶδος τὸ αὐτὸ ἐν δύο γένεσιν εἶναι μὴ περιέχουσιν  
ἄλληλα· ἐπιφέρει γὰρ ἐκάστη τῶν διαφορῶν τὸ  
οἰκεῖον γένος, καθάπερ τὸ πεζὸν καὶ τὸ δίπουν  
τὸ ζῶον συνεπιφέρει. ὥστε εἰ καθ' οὗ ἡ διαφορά,  
καὶ τῶν γενῶν ἐκάτερον, δῆλον [οὖν] ὅτι τὸ εἶδος  
20 ἐν δύο γένεσιν οὐ περιέχουσιν ἄλληλα. ἢ οὐκ  
ἀδύνατον τὴν αὐτὴν διαφορὰν δύο γενῶν εἶναι  
μὴ περιεχόντων ἄλληλα, ἀλλὰ προσθετέον μηδ'  
ἄμφω ὑπὸ ταυτὸν ὄντων. τὸ γὰρ πεζὸν ζῶον  
καὶ τὸ πτηνὸν ζῶον γένη ἐστίν οὐ περιέχοντα  
ἄλληλα, καὶ ἀμφοτέρων αὐτῶν ἐστὶ τὸ δίπουν  
25 διαφορά. ὥστε προσθετέον ὅτι μηδ' ὑπὸ ταυτὸ

## TOPICA, VI. vi

will be either species or individuals, if they are animals ; for each animal is either a species or an individual.

In like manner you must consider also whether the species or any of the things which come under the species is predicated of the differentia ; for this is impossible, since the differentia is used over a wider field than the species. Furthermore, if any of the species is predicated of it, the result will be that the differentia is a species ; for if ' man ' is predicated, obviously the differentia is man. Again, you must see whether the differentia fails to be prior to the species ; for the differentia ought to be posterior to the genus but prior to the species.

You must consider also whether the differentia stated is of a different genus, neither contained by nor containing it. For it is generally held that the same differentia cannot attach to two genera neither of which contains the other ; otherwise it will result that the same species also is in two genera neither of which includes the other ; for each of the differentiae involves its own genus, for example ' pedestrian ' and ' winged ' involve ' animal.' If, therefore, each of the genera, too, is predicated of that of which the differentia is predicated, it is obvious that the species falls under two genera neither of which contains the other. Or, perhaps, it is not impossible that the same differentia should belong to two genera neither of which contains the other, and we ought to add ' if they do not fall under the same genus.' For ' pedestrian animal ' and ' winged animal ' are genera neither of which contains the other, and ' biped ' is a differentia of both of them, so that ' if they do not fall under the same genus ' ought to be added ;

(f) Observe whether the same differentia belongs to another genus.

144 b

ὄντων ἄμφω· ταῦτα γὰρ ἄμφω ὑπὸ τὸ ζῶόν ἐστιν.  
 δῆλον δὲ καὶ ὅτι οὐκ ἀνάγκη τὴν διαφορὰν πᾶν  
 τὸ οἰκεῖον ἐπιφέρειν γένος, ἐπειδὴ ἐνδέχεται τὴν  
 αὐτὴν δύο γενῶν εἶναι μὴ περιεχόντων ἄλληλα·  
 ἀλλὰ τὸ ἕτερον μόνον ἀνάγκη συνεπιφέρειν καὶ  
 30 τὰ ἐπάνω τούτου, καθάπερ τὸ δίπουν τὸ πτηνὸν  
 ἢ τὸ πεζὸν συνεπιφέρει ζῶον.

Ὅρᾶν δὲ καὶ εἰ τὸ ἐν τινι διαφορὰν ἀποδέδωκεν  
 οὐσίας· οὐ δοκεῖ γὰρ διαφέρειν οὐσία οὐσίας τῷ  
 ποῦ εἶναι. διὸ καὶ τοῖς τῷ πεζῷ καὶ τῷ ἐνύδρῳ  
 διαιροῦσι τὸ ζῶον ἐπιτιμῶσιν ὡς τὸ πεζὸν καὶ  
 35 τὸ ἐνυδρον ποῦ σημαῖνον. ἢ ἐπὶ μὲν τούτων οὐκ  
 ὀρθῶς ἐπιτιμῶσιν· οὐ γὰρ ἐν τινι οὐδὲ ποῦ σημαίνει  
 τὸ ἐνυδρον, ἀλλὰ ποιόν τι· καὶ γὰρ ἂν ἦ ἐν τῷ  
 ξηρῷ, ὁμοίως ἐνυδρον· ὁμοίως δὲ τὸ χερσαῖον,  
 145 a καὶ ἐν ὑγρῷ, χερσαῖον ἀλλ' οὐκ ἐνυδρον ἔσται.  
 ἀλλ' ὁμως ἐάν ποτε σημαίνῃ τὸ ἐν τινι ἢ διαφορά,  
 δῆλον ὅτι διημαρτηκῶς ἔσται.

Πάλιν εἰ τὸ πάθος διαφορὰν ἀποδέδωκεν. πᾶν  
 γὰρ πάθος μᾶλλον γινόμενον ἐξίστησι τῆς οὐσίας,  
 5 ἢ δὲ διαφορὰ οὐ τοιοῦτον· μᾶλλον γὰρ σώζειν  
 δοκεῖ ἢ διαφορὰ οὗ ἐστὶ διαφορά, καὶ ἀπλῶς  
 ἀδύνατον εἶναι ἄνευ τῆς οἰκείας διαφορᾶς ἕκαστον·  
 πεζοῦ γὰρ μὴ ὄντος οὐκ ἔσται ἄνθρωπος· ἀπλῶς  
 δ' εἰπεῖν, καθ' ὅσα ἀλλοιοῦνται τὸ ἔχον, οὐδὲν



for they both fall under 'animal.' It is obvious also that, since it is possible for the same differentia to attach to two genera neither of which contains the other, it does not necessarily follow that the differentia involves every appropriate genus, but it need only involve one or other of them and the genera which are higher than it, as 'biped' involves 'winged animal' or 'walking animal.'

You must also see whether the definer has assigned existence 'in' something as a differentia of the essence; for it is generally held that one essence does not differ from another in respect of locality. Hence arises the criticism of those who divide animals by the term 'pedestrian' and 'aquatic,' on the ground that 'pedestrian' and 'aquatic' signify locality. Or perhaps the criticism is not justified; for 'aquatic' does not signify existence 'in' something nor locality, but a certain quality; for even though it be on dry land, an aquatic animal is equally aquatic, and likewise the land animal, even though it be in the water, will still be a land and not an aquatic animal. But, for all that, if ever the differentia signifies existence 'in' something, obviously he will have committed a serious error.

(g) Observe whether locality or an affection is assigned as the differentia of the essence.

Again, you must see whether he has assigned an affection as a differentia; for every affection, if it is intensified, causes a departure from the essence, whereas a differentia is not of this kind. For it is generally held that the differentia tends rather to preserve that of which it is the differentia and that it is absolutely impossible for an individual thing to exist without its appropriate differentia; for if 'pedestrian' does not exist, 'man' will not exist. To put the matter generally, nothing in respect of

τούτων διαφορά ἐκείνου· ἅπαντα γὰρ τὰ τοιαῦτα  
 10 μᾶλλον γινόμενα ἐξίστησι τῆς οὐσίας. ὥστ' εἴ  
 τινα τοιαύτην διαφορὰν ἀπέδωκεν, ἡμάρτηκεν·  
 ἀπλῶς γὰρ οὐκ ἀλλοιούμεθα κατὰ τὰς διαφοράς.

Καὶ εἴ τινος τῶν πρὸς τι μὴ πρὸς ἄλλο τὴν  
 διαφορὰν ἀποδέδωκεν· τῶν γὰρ πρὸς τι καὶ αἱ δια-  
 15 φοραὶ πρὸς τι, καθάπερ καὶ τῆς ἐπιστήμης· θεω-  
 ρητικὴ γὰρ καὶ πρακτικὴ καὶ ποιητικὴ λέγεται,  
 ἕκαστον δὲ τούτων πρὸς τι σημαίνει· θεωρητικὴ  
 γάρ τινος καὶ ποιητικὴ τινος καὶ πρακτικὴ.

Σκοπεῖν δὲ καὶ εἰ πρὸς ὃ πέφυκεν ἕκαστον τῶν  
 20 πρὸς τι ἀποδίδωσιν ὃ ὀριζόμενος. ἐνίοις μὲν γὰρ  
 πρὸς ὃ πέφυκεν ἕκαστον τῶν πρὸς τι μόνον ἔστι  
 χρῆσθαι, πρὸς ἄλλο δ' οὐδέν, ἐνίοις δὲ καὶ πρὸς  
 ἄλλο, οἷον τῇ ὄψει πρὸς τὸ ἰδεῖν μόνον, τῇ δὲ  
 στλεγγίδι καὶ ἀρύσαιτό τις· ἀλλ' ὅμως εἴ τις  
 ὀρίσαιο τὴν στλεγγίδα ὄργανον πρὸς τὸ ἀρύειν,  
 25 ἡμάρτηκεν· οὐ γὰρ πρὸς τοῦτο πέφυκεν. ὅρος  
 δὲ τοῦ πρὸς ὃ πέφυκεν, ἐφ' ὃ ἂν χρήσαιτο ὃ  
 φρόνιμος ἢ φρόνιμος, καὶ ἡ περὶ ἕκαστον οἰκεία  
 ἐπιστήμη.

Ἡ εἰ μὴ τοῦ πρώτου ἀπέδωκεν, ὅταν τυγχάνῃ  
 πρὸς πλείω λεγόμενον, οἷον τὴν φρόνησιν ἀρετὴν

which its possessor undergoes alteration is a differentia of its possessor ; for all things of this kind, if they are intensified, cause a departure from the essence. If, therefore, the definer has assigned any differentia of this kind, he has made a mistake ; for we undergo absolutely no alteration in respect of our differentiae.

You must also see whether he has failed to assign the differentia of a relative term as relative to something else ; for the differentiae of relative terms are also relative, for example, those of knowledge. For it is said to be theoretical, practical and creative, and each of these terms signifies a relation ; for it theorizes about something or creates something or does something.

(h) Observe whether the differentia of relatives fails to be relative, and whether the relation is apt.

You must also see whether the definer assigns each relative term relatively to that for which it is naturally adapted ; for some things can be used for that for which each of them is naturally adapted and for nothing else, while other things can be used also for some other purpose ; for example, sight can only be used for seeing, whereas one can use a strigil for drawing off liquid.<sup>a</sup> Nevertheless if a man should define a strigil as an instrument for drawing off liquid, he has made a mistake ; for this is not its natural purpose. The definition of the natural purpose of an object is ' that for which the prudent man, in virtue of his prudence, and the science which is appropriate to the object would employ it.'

Or, again, you must see whether, when a term happens to be applied in several relations, he has failed to assign it in its primary relation ; for example,

(i) Observe whether the definition is assigned in its primary relation.

<sup>a</sup> In Aristoph. *Thesm.* 556 the word is actually used of an instrument for drawing off wine from a cask.

145 a

30 ἀνθρώπου ἢ ψυχῆς καὶ μὴ τοῦ λογιστικοῦ· πρώτου γὰρ τοῦ λογιστικοῦ ἀρετὴ ἢ φρόνησις· κατὰ γὰρ τοῦτο καὶ ἡ ψυχὴ καὶ ὁ ἄνθρωπος φρονεῖν λέγεται.

Ἔτι εἰ μὴ δεκτικὸν ἐστὶν οὗ εἴρηται τὸ ὠρυσμένον πάθος ἢ<sup>1</sup> διάθεσις ἢ ὁτιοῦν ἄλλο, ἡμάρτηκεν.

35 πᾶσα γὰρ διάθεσις καὶ πᾶν πάθος ἐν ἐκείνῳ πέφυκε γίνεσθαι οὗ ἐστὶ διάθεσις ἢ πάθος, καθάπερ καὶ ἡ ἐπιστήμη ἐν ψυχῇ διάθεσις οὕσα ψυχῆς. ἐνίοτε δὲ διαμαρτάνουσιν ἐν τοῖς τοιούτοις, οἷον

145 b ὅσοι λέγουσιν ὅτι ὕπνος ἐστὶν ἀδυναμία αἰσθήσεως, καὶ ἡ ἀπορία ἰσότης ἐναντίων λογισμῶν, καὶ ἡ ἀλγηδὼν διάστασις τῶν συμφύτων μερῶν μετὰ βίας· οὐτε γὰρ ὁ ὕπνος ὑπάρχει τῇ αἰσθήσει, ἔδει δ', εἴπερ ἀδυναμία αἰσθήσεως ἐστὶν. ὁμοίως δ'

5 οὐδ' ἡ ἀπορία ὑπάρχει τοῖς ἐναντίοις λογισμοῖς, οὐδ' ἡ ἀλγηδὼν τοῖς συμφύτοις μέρεσιν· ἀλγήσει γὰρ τὰ ἄψυχα, εἴπερ ἀλγηδὼν αὐτοῖς παρέσται. τοιοῦτος δὲ καὶ ὁ τῆς ὑγείας ὀρισμός, εἴπερ συμμετρία θερμῶν καὶ ψυχρῶν ἐστίν· ἀνάγκη γὰρ ὑγιαίνειν τὰ θερμὰ καὶ ψυχρά· ἡ γὰρ ἐκάστου

10 συμμετρία ἐν ἐκείνοις ὑπάρχει ὧν ἐστὶ συμμετρία, ὥσθ' ἡ ὑγίεια ὑπάρχοι ἂν αὐτοῖς. ἔτι τὸ ποιούμενον εἰς τὸ ποιητικὸν ἢ ἀνάπαλιν συμβαίνει τιθέναι τοῖς οὕτως ὀριζομένοις. οὐ γὰρ ἐστὶν ἀλγηδὼν ἢ διάστασις τῶν συμφύτων μερῶν, ἀλλὰ ποιητικὸν ἀλγηδόνος· οὐδ' ἡ ἀδυναμία τῆς αἰ-  
15 σθήσεως ὕπνος, ἀλλὰ ποιητικὸν θάτερον θατέρου.

<sup>1</sup> Deleting ἢ after ἢ.



if he has defined 'wisdom' as the virtue of 'man' or of the 'soul' and not of the 'reasoning faculty'; for wisdom is primarily the virtue of the reasoning faculty, for it is in respect of this that both 'soul' and 'man' are said to be wise.

Moreover, he has made a mistake, if that of which the term which has been defined has been said to be an affection or disposition or whatever else it may be, does not admit of it. For every disposition and every affection naturally comes into being in that of which it is a disposition or affection, for example, knowledge in the soul, since it is a disposition of soul. But sometimes people make mistakes in such matters, for example, those who say that 'sleep' is 'impotence of sensation' and 'perplexity' an 'equality of contrary reasonings,' and 'pain' a 'separation of conjoined parts accompanied by violence.' For neither is sleep an attribute of sensation, though it ought to be if it is an impotence of sensation. Similarly neither is perplexity an attribute of contrary reasonings nor pain an attribute of conjoined parts; for, if it were so, inanimate things will be in pain, since pain will be present in them. Of like character is the definition of 'health,' if it is stated to be a 'balance of things hot and cold'; for then things hot and cold must have health; for the balance of anything exists in those things of which it is the balance, and so health would exist in them. Moreover, the result produced by those who frame definitions in this way is to put the effect in place of the cause and vice versa. For the separation of the conjoined parts is not pain, but a cause of pain, and impotence of sensation is not sleep, but one is the cause of the other; for either we go to sleep owing to impotence

(j) Observe whether the affection affects that which it is defined as affecting.

ἤτοι γὰρ διὰ τὴν ἀδυναμίαν ὑπνοῦμεν, ἢ διὰ τὸν  
 ὕπνον ἀδυνατοῦμεν. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ τῆς ἀπορίας  
 δόξειεν ἂν ποιητικὸν εἶναι ἢ τῶν ἐναντίων ἰσότης  
 λογισμῶν· ὅταν γὰρ ἐπ' ἀμφοτέρα λογιζομένοις  
 ἡμῖν ὁμοίως ἅπαντα φαίνεται καθ' ἐκάτερον  
 20 γίνεσθαι, ἀποροῦμεν ὁπότερον πράξωμεν.

Ἔτι κατὰ τοὺς χρόνους πάντας ἐπισκοπεῖν εἴ-  
 που διαφωνεῖ, οἷον εἰ τὸ ἀθάνατον ὠρίσατο ζῶον  
 ἄφθαρτον νῦν εἶναι· τὸ γὰρ νῦν ἄφθαρτον ζῶον  
 νῦν ἀθάνατον ἔσται. ἢ ἐπὶ μὲν τούτου οὐ συμ-  
 25 βαίνει· ἀμφίβολον γὰρ τὸ νῦν ἄφθαρτον εἶναι· ἢ  
 γὰρ ὅτι οὐκ ἔφθαρται νῦν σημαίνει, ἢ ὅτι οὐ δυ-  
 νατὸν φθαρῆναι νῦν, ἢ ὅτι τοιοῦτόν ἐστι νῦν οἷον  
 μηδέποτε φθαρῆναι. ὅταν οὖν λέγωμεν ὅτι ἄφθαρ-  
 τον νῦν ἐστὶ ζῶον, τοῦτο λέγομεν ὅτι νῦν τοιοῦτόν  
 ἐστὶ ζῶον οἷον μηδέποτε φθαρῆναι. τοῦτο δὲ τῷ  
 ἀθανάτῳ τὸ αὐτὸ ἦν, ὥστ' οὐ συμβαίνει νῦν  
 30 αὐτὸ ἀθάνατον εἶναι. ἀλλ' ὅμως ἂν συμβαίνει τὸ  
 μὲν κατὰ τὸν λόγον ἀποδοθὲν ὑπάρχειν νῦν ἢ  
 πρότερον, τὸ δὲ κατὰ τοῦνομα μὴ ὑπάρχειν, οὐκ  
 ἂν εἴη ταυτόν. χρηστέον οὖν τῷ τόπῳ καθάπερ  
 εἴρηται.

VII. Σκεπτέον δὲ καὶ εἰ καθ' ἕτερόν τι μᾶλλον  
 35 λέγεται τὸ ὀρισθὲν ἢ κατὰ τὸν ἀποδοθέντα λόγον,  
 οἷον εἰ ἡ δικαιοσύνη δύναμις τοῦ ἴσου διανεμητική.

## TOPICA, VI. VI-VII

of sensation, or we lose the power of sensation owing to sleep. Similarly, too, it would be generally held that the equality of contrary reasonings is a cause of perplexity ; for, when we are reasoning on both sides of a question and everything appears to have equal weight on either side, we are perplexed which of the two courses we are to adopt.

Furthermore, you must consider all the possible periods of time and look for any discrepancy. Take, for example, the definition of ' immortal ' as ' a living creature at present immune from destruction ' ; for a living creature ' at present ' immune from destruction will be ' at present ' immortal. Or, possibly, it does not follow in this case ; for ' at present immune from destruction ' is ambiguous, since it can mean either that it has not been destroyed at present, or that it cannot be destroyed at present, or that is at present such as never to be destroyed. When, therefore, we say that a living creature is at present immune from destruction, we mean that it is at present a living creature such as never to be destroyed ; and this is the same as saying that it is immortal, so that it does not follow that it is immortal only at present. But, nevertheless, if that which is assigned in the description happens to belong only in the present or in the past, whereas that which is expressed by the name does not so belong, they could not be the same thing. The commonplace, therefore, ought to be employed as described above.

VII. You should also consider whether the term defined is rather applied in virtue of something other than what is expressed in the description assigned. Take, for example, the definition of ' justice ' as ' a capacity for distributing what is equal ' ; for a just

(k) Observe whether the ratio of time concurs with the subject of definition.

Various ways of testing a definition :  
(a) Is there any better definition ?

145 b

δίκαιος γὰρ μᾶλλον ὁ προαιρούμενος τὸ ἴσον  
 146 a διανεῖμαι τοῦ δυναμένου, ὥστ' οὐκ ἂν εἴη ἡ δι-  
 καιοσύνη δύναμις τοῦ ἴσου διανεμητική· καὶ γὰρ  
 δίκαιος εἴη ἂν μάλιστα ὁ δυνάμενος μάλιστα τὸ  
 ἴσον διανεῖμαι.

Ἔτι εἰ τὸ μὲν πρᾶγμα δέχεται τὸ μᾶλλον, τὸ  
 δὲ κατὰ τὸν λόγον ἀποδοθὲν μὴ δέχεται, ἢ ἀνά-  
 5 παλιν τὸ μὲν κατὰ τὸν λόγον ἀποδοθὲν δέχεται,  
 τὸ δὲ πρᾶγμα μὴ. δεῖ γὰρ ἀμφοτέρα δέχεσθαι ἢ  
 μηδέτερον, εἴπερ δὴ ταυτόν ἐστι τὸ κατὰ τὸν  
 λόγον ἀποδοθὲν τῷ πράγματι. ἔτι εἰ δέχεται  
 μὲν ἀμφοτέρα τὸ μᾶλλον, μὴ ἅμα δὲ τὴν ἐπίδοσιν  
 ἀμφοτέρα λαμβάνει, οἷον εἰ ὁ ἔρως ἐπιθυμία  
 10 συνουσίας ἐστίν· ὁ γὰρ μᾶλλον ἐρῶν οὐ μᾶλλον  
 ἐπιθυμεῖ τῆς συνουσίας, ὥστ' οὐχ ἅμα ἀμφοτέρα  
 τὸ μᾶλλον ἐπιδέχεται· ἔδει δέ γε, εἴπερ ταυτόν  
 ἦν.

Ἔτι εἰ δύο τινῶν προτεθέντων, καθ' οὗ τὸ  
 πρᾶγμα μᾶλλον λέγεται, τὸ κατὰ τὸν λόγον ἡττον  
 15 λέγεται, οἷον εἰ τὸ πῦρ ἐστὶ σῶμα τὸ λεπτομερέ-  
 στατον· πῦρ μὲν γὰρ μᾶλλον ἢ φλόξ ἐστὶ τοῦ  
 φωτός, σῶμα δὲ τὸ λεπτομερέστατον ἡττον ἢ  
 φλόξ τοῦ φωτός· ἔδει δ' ἀμφοτέρα μᾶλλον τῷ αὐτῷ  
 ὑπάρχειν, εἴπερ ταῦτα ἦν. πάλιν εἰ τὸ μὲν ὁμοίως

<sup>1</sup> Reading <ἢ> φλόξ.



## TOPICA, VI. VII

man is rather he who deliberately chooses to distribute what is equal than he who has the capacity for doing so : so that justice could not be a capacity for distributing what is equal; for then a man would be most just who has the greatest capacity for distributing what is equal.

Furthermore, you must see whether the subject of the definition admits of a greater degree, whereas that which is assigned by the terms of the description does not ; or, on the contrary, whether that which is assigned by the terms of the description admits of a greater degree, whereas what is assigned by the terms of the definition does not. For either both must admit of it or neither, if that which is assigned by the terms of the description is the same as the subject of the definition. Further, you must see whether both admit of a greater degree while both do not experience the increase at the same time. The definition of ' love ' as ' a desire for sexual intercourse ' is a case in point ; for he who is more in love has not more desire for intercourse, so that both feelings do not admit of a greater degree at the same time, whereas they should do so if they were the same thing.

(b) Does the definition admit of degrees while its subject does not ?

Furthermore, when alternatives are proposed, you must see whether, where the subject of the definition applies in a greater degree, what is assigned by the definition applies in a less degree. Take, for example, the definition of ' fire ' as ' a body consisting of the most subtle parts ' ; for ' fire ' is ' flame ' rather than ' light,' on the other hand ' the body consisting of the most subtle parts ' is less ' flame ' than ' light,' whereas both ought to belong in a greater degree to the same thing, if they were the same. Again,

(c) In the case of alternatives where the subject of the definition is more applicable, is its content less so ?

ἀμφοτέροις ὑπάρχει τοῖς προτεθείσι, τὸ δ' ἕτερον  
20 μὴ ὁμοίως ἀμφοτέροις, ἀλλὰ τῷ ἑτέρῳ μᾶλλον.

Ἔτι ἐὰν πρὸς δύο τὸν ὀρισμὸν ἀποδῶ καθ' ἑκά-  
τερον, οἷον τὸ καλὸν τὸ δι' ὄψεως ἢ τὸ δι' ἀκοῆς  
ἡδύ, καὶ τὸ ὄν τὸ δυνατόν παθεῖν ἢ ποιῆσαι· ἅμα  
γὰρ ταῦτόν καλόν τε καὶ οὐ καλὸν ἔσται, ὁμοίως  
25 δὲ καὶ ὄν τε καὶ οὐκ ὄν. τὸ γὰρ δι' ἀκοῆς ἡδὺ  
ταῦτόν τῷ καλῷ ἔσται, ὥστε τὸ μὴ ἡδὺ δι' ἀκοῆς  
τῷ μὴ καλῷ ταυτόν· τοῖς γὰρ αὐτοῖς καὶ τὰ  
ἀντικείμενα ταῦτά, ἀντίκειται δὲ τῷ μὲν καλῷ  
τὸ οὐ καλόν, τῷ δὲ δι' ἀκοῆς ἡδεῖ τὸ οὐχ ἡδὺ δι'  
ἀκοῆς. δῆλον οὖν ὅτι ταῦτόν τὸ οὐχ ἡδὺ δι' ἀκοῆς  
30 τῷ οὐ καλῷ. εἰ οὖν τι ἔστι δι' ὄψεως μὲν ἡδὺ  
δι' ἀκοῆς δὲ μὴ, καλόν τε καὶ οὐ καλὸν ἔσται.  
ὁμοίως δὲ δείξομεν καὶ διότι ταῦτόν ὄν τε καὶ οὐκ  
ὄν ἔστιν.

Ἔτι καὶ τῶν γενῶν καὶ τῶν διαφορῶν καὶ τῶν  
ἄλλων ἀπάντων τῶν ἐν τοῖς ὀρισμοῖς ἀποδιδόμε-  
35 νων λόγους ἀντὶ τῶν ὀνομάτων ποιοῦντα σκοπεῖν  
εἴ τι διαφωνεῖ.

VIII. Ἐὰν δ' ἢ πρὸς τι τὸ ὀριζόμενον ἢ καθ'  
αὐτὸ ἢ κατὰ τὸ γένος, σκοπεῖν εἰ μὴ εἴρηται ἐν  
146 b τῷ ὀρισμῷ πρὸς ὃ λέγεται ἢ αὐτὸ ἢ κατὰ τὸ  
γένος, οἷον εἰ τὴν ἐπιστήμην ὠρίσατο ὑπόληψιν  
ἀμετάπειστον ἢ τὴν βούλησιν ὀρεξιν ἄλυπον. παν-  
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## TOPICA, VI. VII-VIII

you must see whether one belongs similarly to the terms proposed, while the other does not belong similarly to both, but in a greater degree to one of them.

Furthermore, you must see if he renders the definition in relation to two things separately, for example when he defines 'the beautiful' as 'what is pleasant to the sight or to the hearing,' or 'the existent' as 'what is capable of being affected or of affecting something else'; for then the same thing will be both beautiful and not beautiful, and likewise also both existent and non-existent. For 'pleasant to the hearing' will be the same as 'beautiful,' and so 'not pleasant to the hearing' will be the same as 'not beautiful'; for the opposites of identical things too are identical, and 'not beautiful' is the opposite of 'beautiful,' while 'not pleasant to the hearing' is the opposite of 'pleasant to the hearing.' Obviously, therefore, 'not pleasant to the hearing' is the same as 'not beautiful.' If, therefore, a thing is pleasant to the sight but not to the hearing, it will be both beautiful and not beautiful. And, similarly, we shall show also that the same thing is both existent and non-existent.

(d) Is the definition rendered in relation to two things taken separately?

Furthermore, you should frame descriptions of both the genera and the differentiae and everything else assigned in the definitions to take the place of the names and see whether there is any discrepancy.

(e) Is there any discrepancy of genera and differentiae?

VIII. If what is being defined is relative, either in itself or in its genus, you must examine whether there has been a failure in the definition to mention to what it is relative, either in itself or in its genus; for example, if the definer has defined 'knowledge' as an 'incontrovertible conception,' or 'wish' as a

*Rules for testing the definition of a relative term:*  
(a) If the subject of the definition is rela-

τὸς γὰρ τοῦ πρὸς τι ἢ οὐσία πρὸς ἕτερον, ἐπειδὴ  
 ταῦτὸν ἦν ἐκάστω τῶν πρὸς τι τὸ εἶναι ὅπερ  
 5 τὸ πρὸς τί πως ἔχειν. ἔδει οὖν τὴν ἐπιστήμην εἰ-  
 πεῖν ὑπόληψιν ἐπιστητοῦ καὶ τὴν βούλησιν ὀρεξιν  
 ἀγαθοῦ. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ εἰ τὴν γραμματικὴν  
 ὠρίσατο ἐπιστήμην γραμμάτων. ἔδει γὰρ ἢ πρὸς  
 ὃ αὐτὸ λέγεται ἢ πρὸς ὃ ποτε τὸ γένος ἐν τῷ  
 διορισμῷ ἀποδίδοσθαι. ἢ εἰ πρὸς τι εἰρημένον  
 10 μὴ πρὸς τὸ τέλος ἀποδέδοται. τέλος δ' ἐν ἐκάστω  
 τὸ βέλτιστον ἢ οὐ χάριν τᾶλλα. ῥητέον δὴ ἢ τὸ  
 βέλτιστον ἢ τὸ ἔσχατον, οἷον τὴν ἐπιθυμίαν οὐχ  
 ἡδέος ἀλλ' ἡδονῆς· ταύτης γὰρ χάριν καὶ τὸ ἡδὺ  
 αἰρούμεθα.

Σκοπεῖν δὲ καὶ εἰ γένεσις ἐστὶ πρὸς ὃ ἀπο-  
 δέδωκεν ἢ ἐνέργεια· οὐδὲν γὰρ τῶν τοιούτων  
 15 τέλος· μᾶλλον γὰρ τὸ ἐνηργηκεῖν καὶ γεγενῆσθαι  
 τέλος ἢ τὸ γίνεσθαι καὶ ἐνεργεῖν. ἢ οὐκ ἐπὶ  
 πάντων ἀληθὲς τὸ τοιοῦτον· σχεδὸν γὰρ οἱ πλεῖστοι  
 ἡδεσθαι μᾶλλον βούλονται ἢ πεπαῦσθαι ἡδόμενοι,  
 ὥστε τὸ ἐνεργεῖν μᾶλλον τέλος ἂν ποιοῦντο τοῦ  
 ἐνηργηκεῖν.

20 Πάλιν ἐπ' ἐνίων εἰ μὴ διώρικε τοῦ πόσου ἢ  
 ποίου ἢ ποῦ ἢ κατὰ τὰς ἄλλας διαφοράς, οἷον  
 φιλότιμος ὃ ποίας καὶ ὃ πόσης ὀρεγόμενος τιμῆς·



## TOPICA, VI. VIII

‘painless desire.’ For the essence of anything that is relative is relative to something, since the being of every relative term is the same as the being in some relation to something. He ought, therefore, to have described knowledge as ‘conception of an object of knowledge,’ and wish as ‘desire of the good.’ Similarly, also, if he has defined ‘grammar’ as a ‘knowledge of letters,’ whereas either that to which the term itself is relative or that to whichsoever its genus is relative ought to have been assigned in the definition. Or, again, you ought to see whether a term mentioned in relation to something has not been assigned in relation to its end; for the end in any particular case is that which is best or that for the sake of which all else exists. What is best, then, or ultimate should be stated; for example, desire should be described as not for the pleasant but for pleasure, for it is for the sake of pleasure that we also choose what is pleasant.

You must also examine whether that in relation to which he has assigned the term is a coming-into-being or an activity; for none of such things is an end, for to have completed an activity or a coming-into-being is an end rather than the actual coming-into-being and activity. Or, possibly, such a statement is not invariably true; for almost everyone wishes to be delighted rather than to have ceased to be delighted, so that people apparently would account the actual activity as an end rather than the completion of it.

Again, cases occur in which you must see whether he has failed to define the quantity or quality or place, or the other differentiae which are involved, for example, what is the quality and quantity of the honour which he desires that makes a man ambitious;

tive, is it stated to what it is relative?

(b) Is any relation to coming-into-being or activity stated?

(c) Is there any failure to define quantity or quality or place?

πάντες γὰρ ὀρέγονται τιμῆς, ὥστ' οὐκ ἀπόχρη  
 φιλότιμον εἰπεῖν τὸν ὀρεγόμενον τιμῆς, ἀλλὰ  
 προσθετέον τὰς εἰρημένας διαφοράς. ὁμοίως δὲ  
 25 καὶ φιλοχρήματος ὁ πόσων ὀρεγόμενος χρημάτων  
 ἢ ἀκρατῆς ὁ περὶ ποίας ἡδονάς· οὐ γὰρ ὁ ὑφ'  
 οἰασποτοῦν ἡδονῆς κρατούμενος ἀκρατῆς λέγεται,  
 ἀλλ' ὁ ὑπό τινος. ἢ πάλιν, ὡς ὀρίζονται τὴν νύκτα  
 σκιὰν γῆς, ἢ τὸν σεισμόν κίνησιν γῆς, ἢ τὸ νέφος  
 πύκνωσιν αἰέρος, ἢ τὸ πνεῦμα κίνησιν αἰέρος.  
 30 προσθετέον γὰρ πόσου καὶ ποίου καὶ ὑπὸ τίνος.  
 ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων τῶν τοιούτων·  
 ἀπολείπων γὰρ διαφορὰν ἡντινοῦν οὐ λέγει τὸ τί  
 ἦν εἶναι. δεῖ δ' αἰεὶ πρὸς τὸ ἐνδεές ἐπιχειρεῖν· οὐ  
 γὰρ ὅπως οὖν γῆς κινήθεισης οὐδ' ὅπως οὖν σει-  
 σμός ἔσται, ὁμοίως δ' οὐδ' αἰέρος ὅπως οὖν οὐδ'  
 35 ὅπως οὖν κινήθentos πνεῦμα.

Ἔτι ἐπὶ τῶν ὀρέξεων εἰ μὴ πρόσκειται τὸ  
 φαινόμενον, καὶ ἐφ' ὅσων ἄλλων ἀρμόττει, οἷον  
 147 a ὅτι ἢ βούλησις ὄρεξις ἀγαθοῦ, ἢ δ' ἐπιθυμία  
 ὄρεξις ἡδέος, ἀλλὰ μὴ φαινομένου ἀγαθοῦ ἢ ἡδέος.  
 πολλάκις γὰρ λανθάνει τοὺς ὀρεγομένους ὃ τι  
 ἀγαθὸν ἢ ἡδύ ἐστιν, ὥστ' οὐκ ἀναγκαῖον ἀγαθὸν  
 ἢ ἡδύ εἶναι, ἀλλὰ φαινόμενον μόνον. ἔδει οὖν  
 5 οὕτω καὶ τὴν ἀπόδοσιν ποιήσασθαι. ἐὰν δὲ καὶ  
 ἀποδῶ τὸ εἰρημένον, ἐπὶ τὰ εἶδη ἀκτέον τὸν τιθέ-  
 μενον ιδέας εἶναι· οὐ γὰρ ἐστὶν ιδέα φαινομένου

for all men desire honour, and so it is not enough to say that the man who desires honour is ambitious, but the above-mentioned differentiae must be added. Similarly, too, we must state what quantity of money which he desires makes a man avaricious and what quality of pleasures which he desires makes a man incontinent ; for a man is not called incontinent who is the slave of any kind of pleasure whatsoever, but only if he is the slave of a particular kind. Or, again, when people define 'night' as 'a shadow over the earth,' or an 'earthquake' as 'movement of the earth,' or 'a cloud' as 'condensation of air,' or 'wind' as 'movement of the air,' the quality and quantity and cause must be added. And, similarly, in all cases of this kind ; for the omission of any differentia whatever involves a failure to state the essence. One should always deal with the deficiency ; for an earthquake will not result from *any* kind or *any* extent whatsoever of movement of the earth, nor a wind from *any* kind or extent whatsoever of movement of the air.

Furthermore, in dealing with desires, and in any other case where it is fitting, you must see whether there is a failure to add the qualification 'apparent,' for example in the definitions 'wish is a desire for the good,' or 'appetite is a desire for the pleasant' instead of 'the apparently good or pleasant.' For often those who feel desire fail to perceive what is good or pleasant, so that the object of their desire is not necessarily good or pleasant, but only apparently so. One ought, therefore, to have assigned the definition with this qualification. He, however, who asserts the existence of 'ideas,' if he *does* assign the above qualification, must be confronted with his 'ideas' ; for there can be no 'idea' of what is only

(d) In the definition of appetites, is the object of desire qualified as 'apparent' ?

οὐδενός, τὸ δ' εἶδος πρὸς τὸ εἶδος δοκεῖ λέγεσθαι,  
οἷον αὐτὴ ἐπιθυμία αὐτοῦ ἡδέος καὶ αὐτὴ βούλησις  
αὐτοῦ ἀγαθοῦ. οὐκ ἔστιν οὖν φαινομένου ἀγαθοῦ  
10 οὐδὲ φαινομένου ἡδέος· ἄτοπον γὰρ τὸ εἶναι αὐτὸ  
φαινόμενον ἀγαθὸν ἢ ἡδύ.

IX. Ἐτι εἰ μὲν ἡ τῆς ἕξεως ὁ ὀρισμός, σκοπεῖν  
ἐπὶ τοῦ ἔχοντος, εἰ δὲ τοῦ ἔχοντος, ἐπὶ τῆς ἕξεως·  
ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων τῶν τοιούτων. οἷον  
15 εἰ τὸ ἡδὺ ὅπερ ὠφέλιμον, καὶ ὁ ἡδόμενος ὠφελού-  
μενος. καθόλου δ' εἰπεῖν, ἐν τοῖς τοιούτοις ὀρι-  
σμοῖς τρόπον τινὰ πλείω ἐνὸς συμβαίνει τὸν  
ὀριζόμενον ὀρίζεσθαι· ὁ γὰρ τὴν ἐπιστήμην ὀρίζο-  
μενος τρόπον τινὰ καὶ τὴν ἄγνοιαν ὀρίζεται,  
ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ τὸ ἐπιστήμον καὶ τὸ ἀνεπιστήμον  
20 καὶ τὸ ἐπίστασθαι καὶ τὸ ἀγνοεῖν· τοῦ γὰρ πρώτου  
δήλου γενομένου τρόπον τινὰ καὶ τὰ λοιπὰ δῆλα  
γίνονται. σκεπτέον οὖν ἐπὶ πάντων τῶν τοιούτων  
μή τι διαφωνῇ, στοιχείοις χρώμενον τοῖς ἐκ τῶν  
ἐναντίων καὶ τῶν συστοίχων.

Ἐτι ἐπὶ τῶν πρὸς τι σκοπεῖν εἰ πρὸς ὃ τὸ γένος  
ἀποδίδεται, τὸ εἶδος πρὸς ἐκεῖνό τι ἀποδίδεται, οἷον  
25 εἰ ἡ ὑπόληψις πρὸς ὑποληπτόν, ἢ τις ὑπόληψις  
πρὸς <τὸ><sup>1</sup> τὸ ὑποληπτόν, καὶ εἰ τὸ πολλαπλάσιον  
πρὸς τὸ πολλοστημόριον, τὸ τὶ πολλαπλάσιον πρὸς



apparent, but an 'idea' is generally held to be used in relation to another 'idea.' For example, absolute appetite is for the absolutely pleasant, and absolute wish for the absolutely good, and so they are not for the apparently good or the apparently pleasant, for it is absurd to suppose that an absolutely-apparently-good or pleasant can exist.

IX. Furthermore, if the definition is of the state of anything, you must examine the possessor of the state, or, if the definition is of the possessor of the state, you must examine the state, and so likewise in all such cases. For example, if the pleasant is what is beneficial, he who feels pleasure is benefited. To put the matter generally, in definitions of this kind it happens that the framer of the definition in a way defines more than one thing; for he who defines knowledge in a way defines ignorance also, and likewise also what possesses and what does not possess knowledge, and what it is to know and to be ignorant. For when the first of these things is clear, the rest also in a way become clear also. You must be careful then in all such cases that there is no discrepancy, using the elementary principles derived from contraries and corresponding terms.

Furthermore, in dealing with relatives, you must examine whether the species is assigned as relative to a species of that to which the genus is assigned as relative. For example, if 'conception' is relative to 'object of conception,' you must see whether a particular conception is assigned relative to a particular object of conception, and, if a multiple is relative to a fraction, whether a particular multiple is assigned

*Rules for  
defining  
(a) a state.*

*(b) A rela-  
tive term.*

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<sup>1</sup> τὸ added by Wallies.

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τὸ τὶ πολλοστημόριον· εἰ γὰρ μὴ οὕτως ἀποδίδεται,  
δῆλον ὅτι ἡμάρτηται.

Ὅρᾶν δὲ καὶ εἰ τοῦ ἀντικειμένου ὁ ἀντικείμενος  
30 λόγος, οἷον τοῦ ἡμίσεος ὁ ἀντικείμενος τῷ τοῦ  
διπλασίου· εἰ γὰρ διπλάσιον τὸ ἴσῳ ὑπερέχον,  
ἡμῖν τὸ ἴσῳ ὑπερεχόμενον. καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἐναντίων  
δ' ὡσαύτως. ὁ γὰρ ἐναντίος τοῦ ἐναντίου λόγος  
ἔσται κατὰ μίαν τινὰ συμπλοκὴν τῶν ἐναντίων,  
οἷον εἰ ὠφέλιμον τὸ ποιητικὸν ἀγαθοῦ, βλαβερὸν  
35 τὸ ποιητικὸν κακοῦ ἢ τὸ φθαρτικὸν ἀγαθοῦ. θά-  
147 b τερον γὰρ τούτων ἀναγκαῖον ἐναντίον εἶναι τῷ ἐξ  
ἀρχῆς ῥηθέντι. εἰ οὖν μηδέτερον ἐναντίον τῷ ἐξ ἀρ-  
χῆς ῥηθέντι, δῆλον ὅτι οὐδέτερος ἂν εἴη τῶν ὕστε-  
ρον ἀποδοθέντων τοῦ ἐναντίου λόγος, ὥστ' οὐδ'  
ἐξ ἀρχῆς ἀποδοθεὶς ὀρθῶς ἀποδέδοται. ἐπεὶ δ'  
5 ἓν τῶν ἐναντίων στερήσει θατέρου λέγεται,—  
οἷον ἢ ἀνισότης στέρησις ἰσότητος δοκεῖ εἶναι  
(ἄνισα γὰρ τὰ μὴ ἴσα λέγεται),—δῆλον ὅτι τὸ μὲν  
κατὰ στέρησιν λεγόμενον ἐναντίον ἀναγκαῖον ὀρί-  
ζεσθαι διὰ θατέρου, τὸ δὲ λοιπὸν οὐκέτι διὰ τοῦ  
κατὰ στέρησιν λεγομένου· συμβαίνοι γὰρ ἂν  
ἐκάτερον δι' ἐκατέρου γνωρίζεσθαι. ἐπισκεπτέον  
10 οὖν ἐν τοῖς ἐναντίοις τὴν τοιαύτην ἁμαρτίαν, οἷον  
εἴ τις ὀρίσαιτο τὴν ἰσότητα εἶναι τὸ ἐναντίον ἀν-  
ισότητι· διὰ γὰρ τοῦ κατὰ στέρησιν λεγομένου

as relative to a particular fraction ; for if it has not to be so assigned, obviously a mistake has been made.

You must also see whether the opposite of the description describes the opposite of the term, for example, whether the opposite of the description of 'double' is the description of 'half'; for if 'double' is 'that which exceeds by an equal amount,' 'half' is 'that which is exceeded by an equal amount.' So likewise in the case of contraries also ; for the description which is contrary according to one of the modes of conjunction of contraries will describe the contrary term. For example, if 'beneficial' is 'productive of good,' 'harmful' is 'productive of evil' or 'destructive of good'; for one of these must necessarily be the contrary of the original term. If, then, neither of them is the contrary of the original term, obviously neither of the descriptions assigned later could be the description of the contrary of that term, and so neither has the description originally assigned been assigned correctly. Now since some contraries derive their names from the privation of another contrary—for example, inequality is generally regarded as a privation of equality, for things which are not equal are called 'unequal'—it is obvious that the contrary whose name takes the form of a privation must necessarily be defined by means of the other contrary, but the other contrary cannot then be defined by means of the contrary whose name takes the form of a privation ; for then the result would be that each was known through the other. We must, therefore, be on our guard against this mistake in dealing with contraries, for example, if one were to define equality as the contrary of inequality ; for he is defining by

(c) *Opposites  
and con-  
traries.*

ὀρίζεται. ἔτι τὸν οὕτως ὀριζόμενον ἀναγκαῖον  
 αὐτῷ τῷ ὀριζομένῳ χρῆσθαι. δῆλον δὲ τοῦτο,  
 εἰ μὴ μεταληφθῇ ἀντὶ τοῦ ὀνόματος ὁ λόγος· εἰπεῖν  
 15 γὰρ ἢ ἀνισότητα οὐδὲν διαφέρει ἢ στέρησιν ἰσό-  
 τητος. ἔσται οὖν ἡ ἰσότης τὸ ἐναντίον στέρησει  
 ἰσότητος, ὥστ' αὐτῷ ἂν εἴη κεχρημένος. ἂν δὲ  
 μηδέτερον τῶν ἐναντίων κατὰ στέρησιν λέγεται,  
 ἀποδοθῇ δ' ὁ λόγος ὁμοίως, οἷον ἀγαθὸν τὸ ἐναν-  
 τίον κακῷ, δῆλον ὅτι κακὸν τὸ ἐναντίον ἀγαθῷ  
 20 ἔσται (τῶν γὰρ οὕτως ἐναντίων ὁμοίως ὁ λόγος  
 ἀποδοτέος), ὥστε πάλιν αὐτῷ τῷ ὀριζομένῳ συμ-  
 βαίνει χρῆσθαι· ἐνυπάρχει γὰρ ἐν τῷ τοῦ κακοῦ  
 λόγῳ τὸ ἀγαθόν. ὥστ' εἰ ἀγαθὸν ἔστι τὸ κακῷ  
 ἐναντίον, τὸ δὲ κακὸν οὐδὲν διαφέρει ἢ τὸ τῷ  
 ἀγαθῷ ἐναντίον, ἔσται ἀγαθὸν τὸ ἐναντίον τῷ τοῦ  
 25 ἀγαθοῦ ἐναντίῳ. δῆλον οὖν ὅτι αὐτῷ κέχρηται.

Ἔτι εἰ τὸ κατὰ στέρησιν λεγόμενον ἀποδιδούς  
 μὴ ἀποδέδωκεν οὐ ἔστι στέρησις, οἷον τῆς ἕξεως  
 ἢ τοῦ ἐναντίου ἢ ὅτουοῦν ἐστὶν ἡ στέρησις· καὶ  
 εἰ μὴ ἐν ᾧ πέφυκε γίνεσθαι προσέθηκεν, ἢ ἀπλῶς  
 30 ἢ ἐν ᾧ πρῶτῳ πέφυκε γίνεσθαι, οἷον εἰ τὴν ἄγνοιαν  
 εἰπὼν στέρησιν μὴ ἐπιστήμης στέρησιν εἶπεν, ἢ  
 μὴ προσέθηκεν ἐν ᾧ πέφυκε γίνεσθαι, ἢ προσθεῖς



means of a term which takes the form of a privation. Moreover, he who defines in this way must necessarily employ the very term which he is defining ; and this becomes obvious if the description is substituted for the name ; for it makes no difference whether we say 'inequality' or 'privation of equality.' Equality, therefore, will be 'the contrary of the privation of equality,' so that he would have used the actual term. If, however, neither of the contraries is named in the form of a privation but the description is assigned in the same manner, for example in the definition of 'good' as 'the contrary of evil,' it is obvious that 'evil' will be 'the contrary of good' (for the description of things which are contrary in this way must be assigned in a similar manner), and so the result again is that he uses the actual term which is being defined ; for 'good' is inherent in the description of 'evil.' If, then, 'good' is 'the contrary of evil,' and 'evil' is indistinguishable from 'the contrary of good,' 'good' will be 'the contrary of the contrary of good' ; it is obvious, therefore, that he has made use of the actual term.

Furthermore, you must see whether, in assigning a term named in the form of a privation, he has failed to assign that of which it is a privation, for example, the state, or the contrary, or whatever else it is of which it is the privation ; and also whether he has failed to add what it is in which it naturally comes into being absolutely or in which it naturally comes into being primarily ; for example, if, in calling 'ignorance' a privation, he has failed to call it a privation of 'knowledge,' or has failed to add what it is in which it naturally comes into being, or, though he has added this, has not assigned that in which it

(d) Privations.

147 b

μὴ ἐν ᾧ πρώτῳ ἀπέδωκεν, οἷον ὅτι οὐκ ἐν τῷ  
 λογιστικῷ ἀλλ' ἐν ἀνθρώπῳ ἢ ψυχῇ· ἐὰν γὰρ ὅτιοῦν  
 τούτων μὴ ποιήσῃ, ἡμάρτηκεν. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ εἰ  
 35 τὴν τυφλότητα μὴ ὄψεως στέρησιν ἐν ὀφθαλμῷ  
 148 a εἶπεν· δεῖ γὰρ τὸν καλῶς ἀποδιδόντα τὸ τί ἐστι,  
 καὶ τίνος ἐστὶν ἢ στέρησις ἀποδοῦναι καὶ τί ἐστι  
 τὸ ἐστερημένον.

Ὅρᾶν δὲ καὶ εἰ μὴ λεγομένου κατὰ στέρησιν  
 στερήσει ὠρίσατο, οἷον καὶ ἐπὶ τῆς ἀγνοίας δόξειεν  
 5 ἂν ὑπάρχειν ἢ τοιαύτη ἁμαρτία τοῖς μὴ κατ'  
 ἀπόφασιν τὴν ἀγνοίαν λέγουσιν. τὸ γὰρ μὴ ἔχον  
 ἐπιστήμην οὐ δοκεῖ ἀγνοεῖν, ἀλλὰ μᾶλλον τὸ  
 διηπατημένον, διὸ οὔτε τὰ ἄψυχα οὔτε τὰ παιδιά  
 φασὲν ἀγνοεῖν, ὥστ' οὐ κατὰ στέρησιν ἐπιστήμης  
 ἢ ἀγνοία λέγεται.

10 X. Ἔτι εἰ <ἐπὶ><sup>1</sup> τῶν ὁμοίων τοῦ ὀνόματος πτώ-  
 σεων αἱ ὁμοίαι τοῦ λόγου πτώσεις ἐφαρμόττουσιν,  
 οἷον εἰ ὠφελίμον τὸ ποιητικὸν ὑγείας, ὠφελίμως  
 τὸ ποιητικῶς ὑγείας καὶ ὠφεληκὸς τὸ πεποιη-  
 κὸς ὑγίειαν.

Σκοπεῖν δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τὴν ἰδέαν εἰ ἐφαρμόσει ὁ  
 15 λεχθεὶς ὅρος. ἐπ' ἐνίων γὰρ οὐ συμβαίνει, οἷον  
 ὡς Πλάτων ὀρίζεται τὸ θνητὸν προσάπτων ἐν  
 τοῖς τῶν ζώων ὀρισμοῖς· ἢ γὰρ ἰδέα οὐκ ἔσται  
 θνητή, οἷον αὐτοάνθρωπος, ὥστ' οὐκ ἐφαρμόσει  
 ὁ λόγος ἐπὶ τὴν ἰδέαν. ἀπλῶς δ' οἷς πρόσκειται  
 τὸ ποιητικὸν ἢ παθητικόν, ἀνάγκη διαφωνεῖν

<sup>1</sup> ἐπὶ add. Wallies.

naturally comes in being primarily, assigning it, for example, to 'man' or 'the soul' instead of to 'the reasoning faculty'; for if he has failed to do any of these things, he has made a mistake. Similarly, also, if he has failed to call 'blindness' 'a privation of sight in *the eye*'; for he who is stating the essence correctly must state both what it is of which there is privation and what it is which is deprived.

You must also see whether, when a term is not used as a privation, he has defined it as a privation. For example, a mistake of this kind would be generally held to be committed in the case of 'ignorance' by those who do not use ignorance as a merely negative term. For what is regarded as ignorant is not that which does not possess knowledge but rather that which is deceived. Therefore we do not speak of inanimate things or children as 'ignorant,' and so 'ignorance' is not used for a mere privation of knowledge.

X. Furthermore, you must see whether the similar inflexions in the description apply to the similar inflexions of the term; for example, whether, if 'beneficial' means 'productive of health,' 'beneficially' means 'in a manner productive of health' and 'having benefited' means 'having produced health.'

You must also consider whether the definition given will fit the 'idea' also. In some cases this does not occur, for example, when Plato in his definitions of living creatures inserts the term 'mortal' in his definition; for the 'idea,' for example 'absolute man,' will not be mortal, so that the definition will not fit the 'idea.' Also, where the terms 'capable of affecting' or 'of being affected by' are added, there is necessarily an absolute discrepancy between

(e) Privations wrongly so called.

Rules drawn (a) from like inflexions.

(b) From reference of the definition to the idea of the term defined.

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20 ἐπὶ τῆς ἰδέας τὸν ὅρον· ἀπαθεῖς γὰρ καὶ ἀκίνητοι δοκοῦσιν αἱ ἰδέαι τοῖς λέγουσιν ἰδέας εἶναι. πρὸς δὲ τούτους καὶ οἱ τοιοῦτοι λόγοι χρήσιμοι.

Ἔτι εἰ τῶν καθ' ὁμωνυμίαν λεγομένων ἓνα λόγον ἀπάντων κοινὸν ἀπέδωκεν. συνώνυμα γὰρ  
25 ὧν εἰς ὁ κατὰ τοῦνομα λόγος, ὥστ' οὐδένος τῶν ὑπὸ τοῦνομα ὁ ἀποδοθεὶς ὅρος, εἰ δὴ ὁμοίως ἐπὶ πᾶν τὸ ὁμώνυμον ἐφαρμόττει. πέπονθε δὲ τοῦτο καὶ ὁ Διονυσίου τῆς ζωῆς ὅρος, εἴπερ ἐστὶ κίνησις γένους θρεπτοῦ σύμφυτος παρακολουθοῦσα· οὐδὲν γὰρ μᾶλλον τοῦτο τοῖς ζώοις ἢ τοῖς φυτοῖς ὑπάρχει.

30 ἢ δὲ ζωὴ οὐ καθ' ἓν εἶδος δοκεῖ λέγεσθαι, ἀλλ' ἑτέρα μὲν τοῖς ζώοις ἑτέρα δὲ τοῖς φυτοῖς ὑπάρχειν. ἐνδέχεται μὲν οὖν καὶ κατὰ προαίρεσιν οὕτως ἀποδοῦναι τὸν ὅρον ὡς συνωνύμου καὶ καθ' ἓν εἶδος πάσης τῆς ζωῆς λεγομένης· οὐδὲν δὲ κωλύει καὶ συνορῶντα τὴν ὁμωνυμίαν, καὶ θατέρου βου-  
35 λόμενον τὸν ὀρισμὸν ἀποδοῦναι, λαθεῖν μὴ ἴδιον ἀλλὰ κοινὸν ἀμφοῖν λόγον ἀποδόντα. ἀλλ' οὐδὲν ἦττον, εἰ ὁποτέρωσοῦν πεποίηκεν, ἡμάρτηκεν.

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ἐπεὶ δ' ἓνα λανθάνει τῶν ὁμωνύμων, ἐρωτῶντι μὲν ὡς συνωνύμοις χρηστέον (οὐ γὰρ ἐφαρμόσει ὁ θατέρου ὅρος ἐπὶ θάτερον, ὥστε δόξει οὐχ ὠρίσθαι κατὰ τρόπον· δεῖ γὰρ ἐπὶ πᾶν τὸ συν-  
ώνυμον ἐφαρμόττειν), αὐτῷ δ' ἀποκρινομένων διαι-  
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the definition and the 'idea'; for 'ideas,' in the view of those who hold that they exist, are not liable to any affection or to motion. In dealing with such persons such arguments, amongst others, are useful.

Furthermore, you must see whether he has given one common description of terms used equivocally. For terms of which the description corresponding with the name is one and the same, are synonymous, and so, if the definition assigned fits the equivocal term equally well in all its senses, it cannot apply to any one of the meanings which fall under the name. This is the defect of Dionysius' definition of 'life,' which he describes as 'innate and accompanying movement of an organism nourished by food'; for this applies not less to plants than to animals, whereas it is generally held that the term 'life' is not used of one kind of thing only, but that there is one life of animals and another of plants. It is possible, however, also deliberately to assign the definition in this way on the ground that life as a whole is a synonymous term and applied to one kind of thing only; but there is no reason why a man, though he both sees the equivocation and wishes to assign the definition of one meaning only, should yet unconsciously assign a description which is not peculiar to one of two meanings but common to both. Nevertheless, whichever of these two courses he has adopted, he is equally in error. Since equivocal terms sometimes pass unnoticed, you should, when you are questioning, treat them as synonymous (for the definition of one meaning will not fit the other, so that the definition will be generally regarded as incorrect, for it ought to fit every instance of the synonymous term); on the other hand, you yourself, when answering, ought to

*Rules for testing the definition of equivocal terms.*

ρετέον. ἐπεὶ δ' ἔνιοι τῶν ἀποκρινομένων τὸ μὲν  
 5 συνώνυμον ὁμώνυμόν φασιν εἶναι, ὅταν μὴ ἐφαρ-  
 μότη ἐπὶ πᾶν ὁ ἀποδοθεὶς λόγος, τὸ δ' ὁμώνυμον  
 συνώνυμον, ἐὰν ἐπ' ἄμφω ἐφαρμότῃ, προδιομο-  
 λογητέον ὑπὲρ τῶν τοιούτων ἢ προσυλλογιστέον  
 ὅτι ὁμώνυμον ἢ συνώνυμον, ὁπότερον ἂν ᾖ· μᾶλλον  
 10 γὰρ συγχωροῦσιν οὐ προορῶντες τὸ συμβησό-  
 μενον. ἂν δὲ μὴ γενομένης ὁμολογίας φῇ τις τὸ  
 συνώνυμον ὁμώνυμον εἶναι διὰ τὸ μὴ ἐφαρμόττειν  
 καὶ ἐπὶ τοῦτο τὸν ἀποδοθέντα λόγον, σκοπεῖν εἰ  
 ὁ τούτου λόγος ἐφαρμόττει καὶ ἐπὶ τὰ λοιπά·  
 δῆλον γὰρ ὅτι συνώνυμον ἂν εἴη τοῖς λοιποῖς. εἰ  
 δὲ μή, πλείους ἔσονται ὁρισμοὶ τῶν λοιπῶν· δύο  
 15 γὰρ οἱ κατὰ τοῦνομα λόγοι ἐφαρμόττουσιν ἐπ'  
 αὐτά, ὃ τε πρότερον ἀποδοθεὶς καὶ ὁ ὕστερον·  
 πάλιν εἴ τις ὀρισάμενος τῶν πολλαχῶς τι λεγο-  
 μένων, καὶ τοῦ λόγου μὴ ἐφαρμόττοντος ἐπὶ  
 πάντα, ὅτι μὲν ὁμώνυμον μὴ λέγοι, τὸ δ' ὄνομα  
 μὴ φαίῃ ἐπὶ πάντα ἐφαρμόττειν, ὅτι οὐδ' ὁ λόγος,  
 20 ῥητέον πρὸς τὸν τοιοῦτον ὅτι τῇ μὲν ὀνομασίᾳ δεῖ  
 χρῆσθαι τῇ παραδεδομένη καὶ παρέπομένη καὶ μὴ  
 κινεῖν τὰ τοιαῦτα, ἔνια δ' οὐ λεκτέον ὁμοίως τοῖς  
 πολλοῖς.

XI. Ἐὰν δὲ τῶν συμπεπλεγμένων τινὸς ἀπο-  
 δοθῇ ὅρος, σκοπεῖν ἀφαιροῦντα τὸν θατέρου τῶν  
 25 συμπεπλεγμένων λόγον, εἰ καὶ ὁ λοιπὸς τοῦ λοι-

distinguish the various meanings. Since some answerers call a term 'equivocal' which is really synonymous whenever the description assigned does not fit all its meanings, and call a term 'synonymous' which is really equivocal if the description fits both meanings, you must obtain a previous agreement on such points or else prove in advance that the term is 'equivocal' or 'synonymous,' whichever it may be ; for people concur more readily when they do not foresee what will be the result. If, on the other hand, when there has been no agreement, a man declares that a synonymous term is equivocal because the description assigned does not fit a particular meaning of it, you must see whether the description of this meaning fits the other meanings also ; for then it is obvious that it must be synonymous with the other meanings. If this is not so, there will be more than one definition of the other meanings ; for there are two descriptions applied to the term which fit them, namely, the one originally assigned and the one subsequently assigned. Again, if a man were to define a term used in several meanings, and then, when the description did not fit all the meanings, were not to say that it is equivocal but were to assert that the term does not fit all the meanings just because the description does not fit them either, you must say to such a person that, though sometimes one ought not to use the same language as the multitude, yet one ought to employ the traditional and received terminology and not disturb things of that kind.

XI. If a definition has been given of some complex term, you must take away the description of one part of the complex and see whether the remainder of the definition is a description of the remainder of it ;

*Rules for  
the defini-  
tion of a  
complex  
term :*

(a) Does the

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ποῦ· εἰ γὰρ μή, δῆλον ὅτι οὐδ' ὁ ὅλος τοῦ ὅλου.  
οἷον εἰ ὠρίσατο γραμμὴν πεπερασμένην εὐθείαν  
πέρας ἐπιπέδου ἔχοντος πέρατα, οὐ τὸ μέσον  
ἐπιπροσθεῖ τοῖς πέρασιν, εἰ τῆς πεπερασμένης  
γραμμῆς ὁ λόγος ἐστὶ πέρας ἐπιπέδου ἔχοντος  
30 πέρατα, τοῦ εὐθέος δεῖ εἶναι τὸ λοιπόν, οὐ τὸ  
μέσον ἐπιπροσθεῖ τοῖς πέρασιν. ἀλλ' ἡ ἄπειρος  
οὔτε μέσον οὔτε πέρατα ἔχει, εὐθεία δ' ἐστίν,  
ὥστ' οὐκ ἔστιν ὁ λοιπὸς τοῦ λοιποῦ λόγος.

Ἔτι εἰ συνθέτου ὄντος τοῦ ὀριζομένου ισόκωλος  
ὁ λόγος ἀπεδόθη τῷ ὀριζομένῳ. ισόκωλος δέ  
85 λέγεται ὁ λόγος εἶναι, ὅταν ὅσαπερ ἂν ἡ τὰ συγ-  
κείμενα, τοσαῦτα καὶ ἐν τῷ λόγῳ ὀνόματα καὶ  
ρήματα ἦ. ἀνάγκη γὰρ αὐτῶν τῶν<sup>1</sup> ὀνομάτων ἐν  
τοῖς τοιούτοις μεταλλαγὴν γίνεσθαι, ἢ πάντων ἢ  
149 a τινῶν, ἐπειδὴ οὐδὲν πλείω νῦν ἢ πρότερον ὀνόματα  
εἴρηται· δεῖ δὲ τὸν ὀριζόμενον λόγον ἀντὶ τῶν  
ὀνομάτων ἀποδοῦναι, μάλιστα μὲν πάντων, εἰ δὲ  
μή, τῶν πλείστων. οὕτω γὰρ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἀπλῶν  
ὁ τοῦνομα μεταλαβὼν ὠρισμένος ἂν εἴη, οἷον ἀντὶ  
λωπίου ἱμάτιον.

5 Ἔτι δὲ μείζων ἁμαρτία, εἰ καὶ ἀγνωστοτέρων  
ὀνομάτων τὴν μετάληψιν ἐποίησατο, οἷον ἀντὶ  
ἀνθρώπου λευκοῦ βροτὸν ἀργόν· οὔτε γὰρ ὠρισταί  
ἡττόν τε σαφὲς οὕτω ῥηθέν.

Σκοπεῖν δὲ καὶ ἐν τῇ μεταλλαγῇ τῶν ὀνομάτων

<sup>1</sup> Reading αὐτῶν τῶν with BC.



if not, it is obvious that neither does the whole definition describe the whole complex. Suppose, for example, someone has defined a 'finite straight line' as the 'limit of a finite plane, such that its centre is directly between its extremities'; if the description of a 'finite line' is the 'limit of a finite plane,' the remainder, namely, 'such that its centre is directly between its extremities' ought to be the description of 'straight.' But an infinite line has neither extremities nor a centre and is nevertheless straight, so that the remaining part of the definition does not describe the remainder of the term.

definition  
describe  
the whole  
complex ?

Furthermore, when that which is being defined is compound, you must see whether the description assigned possesses the same number of members as that which is being defined. The description is said to contain the same number of members when the nouns and verbs in the description are equal in number to the component parts of the subject of the definition. For in such cases there must be a change of all or some of the terms themselves, since no more terms are used now than before, whereas he who is giving a definition must assign a description in place of all the terms, if possible, or, failing this, of most of them. For on that principle, in dealing with simple terms also, he who has simply changed the name would have given a definition, for example, if he substituted 'cloak' for 'mantle.'

(b) Does the  
definition  
consist of as  
many parts  
as the complex  
which  
is its subject ?

The error is still greater if what is substituted consists of terms which are even less intelligible, for example, 'gleaming mortal' in place of 'white man'; for it forms no definition and is less intelligible when stated in this way.

(c) Are the  
terms used  
more  
obscure ?

You must also consider whether in the change of

(d) Are

εἰ οὐ ταῦτόν ἔτι σημαίνει, οἷον ὁ τὴν θεωρητικὴν  
 10 ἐπιστήμην ὑπόληψιν θεωρητικὴν εἰπών. ἡ γὰρ  
 ὑπόληψις τῇ ἐπιστήμῃ οὐ ταῦτόν, δεῖ δέ γε, εἴπερ  
 μέλλει καὶ τὸ ὅλον ταῦτόν εἶναι· τὸ μὲν γὰρ θεω-  
 ρητικὸν κοινὸν ἐν ἀμφοτέροις τοῖς λόγοις ἐστί,  
 τὸ δὲ λοιπὸν διάφορον.

Ἔτι εἰ θατέρου τῶν ὀνομάτων τὴν μετάληψιν  
 15 ποιούμενος μὴ τῆς διαφορᾶς ἀλλὰ τοῦ γένους τὴν  
 μεταλλαγὴν ἐποιήσατο, καθάπερ ἐπὶ τοῦ ἀρτίως  
 ῥηθέντος. ἀγνωστότερον γὰρ ἢ θεωρητικὴ τῆς  
 ἐπιστήμης· τὸ μὲν γὰρ γένος, τὸ δὲ διαφορά,  
 πάντων δὲ γνωριμώτατον τὸ γένος· ὥστ' οὐ τοῦ  
 γένους ἀλλὰ τῆς διαφορᾶς ἔδει τὴν μετάληψιν  
 20 ποιήσασθαι, ἐπειδὴ ἀγνωστότερόν ἐστιν. ἡ τοῦτο  
 μὲν γελοῖον τὸ ἐπιτίμημα· οὐδὲν γὰρ κωλύει τὴν  
 μὲν διαφορὰν τῷ γνωριμωτάτῳ ὀνόματι εἰρηῆσθαι,  
 τὸ δὲ γένος μὴ· οὕτω δ' ἐχόντων δῆλον ὅτι τοῦ  
 γένους καὶ οὐ τῆς διαφορᾶς κατὰ τοῦνομα καὶ τὴν  
 μετάληψιν ποιητέον. εἰ δὲ μὴ ὄνομα ἀντ' ὀνό-  
 25 ματος ἀλλὰ λόγον ἀντ' ὀνόματος μεταλαμβάνει,  
 δῆλον ὅτι τῆς διαφορᾶς μᾶλλον ἢ τοῦ γένους  
 ὀρισμὸν ἀποδοτέον, ἐπειδὴ τοῦ γνωρίσαι χάριν  
 ὁ ὀρισμὸς ἀποδίδεται· ἥττον γὰρ ἢ διαφορὰ τοῦ  
 γένους γνώριμον.

XII. Εἰ δὲ τῆς διαφορᾶς τὸν ὅρον ἀποδέδωκε,  
 30 σκοπεῖν εἰ καὶ ἄλλου τινὸς κοινὸς ὁ ἀποδοθεὶς  
 ὅρος, οἷον ὅταν περιττὸν ἀριθμὸν ἀριθμὸν μέσον  
 ἔχοντα εἴπῃ, ἐπιδιοριστέον τὸ πῶς μέσον ἔχοντα.  
 ὁ μὲν γὰρ ἀριθμὸς κοινὸς ἐν ἀμφοτέροις τοῖς  
 λόγοις ὑπάρχει, τοῦ δὲ περιττοῦ μετείληπται ὁ

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terms the significance is no longer the same, for example, when 'speculative knowledge' is called 'speculative conception.' For 'conception' is not the same as 'knowledge,' and yet it ought to be the same if the whole phrase too is to be the same; for, while 'speculative' is common to both phrases, the remainder is different.

*new terms employed which have not the same significance?*

Furthermore, you must see whether, in the substitution of one of the terms, the change is made not of the differentia but of the genus, as in the example just given. For 'speculative' is less familiar than 'knowledge'; for the latter is a genus, the former a differentia, and the genus is always the most intelligible of all terms. The substitution ought, therefore, to have taken place not in the genus but in the differentia, since the latter is less intelligible. Or, possibly, this criticism is ridiculous; for there is no reason why the differentia rather than the genus should be described by the most familiar term, and, if so, obviously the change ought to be made in the term expressing not the differentia but the genus. But if it is a question of substituting not term for term but phrase for term, obviously a definition should be given of the differentia rather than of the genus, since a definition is given to make something intelligible; for the differentia is less intelligible than the genus.

*(e) Does the change of a term involve a change of genus?*

XII. If the definer has given the definition of the differentia, you must see whether the definition given is common to something else also. For example, when an odd number is described as a 'number which has a middle,' a further definition must be given to show in what sense it has a middle; for the word 'number' is common to both expressions, but the

*Further rules for testing definitions:*  
*(a) When the definition of a differentia is assigned, is it common to some-*

149 a

λόγος. ἔχει δὲ καὶ γραμμὴ καὶ σῶμα μέσον, οὐ  
 35 περιττὰ ὄντα. ὥστ' οὐκ ἂν εἴη ὁρισμὸς οὗτος  
 τοῦ περιττοῦ. εἰ δὲ πολλαχῶς λέγεται τὸ μέσον  
 ἔχον, διοριστέον τὸ πῶς μέσον ἔχον. ὥστ' ἡ ἐπι-  
 τίμησις ἔσται, ἢ συλλογισμὸς ὅτι οὐχ ὥρισταί.

Πάλιν εἰ οὗ μὲν τὸν λόγον ἀποδίδωσι τῶν ὄντων  
 ἐστί, τὸ δ' ὑπὸ τὸν λόγον μὴ τῶν ὄντων, οἷον εἰ  
 149 b τὸ λευκὸν ὥρίσατο χρῶμα πυρὶ μεμιγμένον· ἀδύ-  
 νατον γὰρ τὸ ἀσώματον μεμίχθαι σώματι, ὥστ' οὐκ  
 ἂν εἴη χρῶμα πυρὶ μεμιγμένον· λευκὸν δ' ἔστιν.

Ἔτι ὅσοι μὴ διαιροῦσιν ἐν τοῖς πρὸς τι πρὸς ὃ  
 5 λέγεται, ἀλλ' ἐν πλείοσι περιλαβόντες εἶπαν, ἢ  
 ὅλως ἢ ἐπὶ τι ψεύδονται, οἷον εἴ τις τὴν ἱατρικὴν  
 ἐπιστήμην ὄντος εἶπεν. εἰ μὲν γὰρ μηδενὸς τῶν  
 ὄντων ἢ ἱατρικὴ ἐπιστήμη, δῆλον ὅτι ὅλως ἔψευ-  
 σται, εἰ δὲ τινὸς μὲν τινὸς δὲ μή, ἐπὶ τι ἔψευσται.  
 δεῖ γὰρ παντός, εἴπερ καθ' αὐτὸ καὶ μὴ κατὰ  
 10 συμβεβηκὸς ὄντος εἶναι λέγεται, καθάπερ ἐπὶ  
 τῶν ἄλλων ἔχει τῶν πρὸς τι· πᾶν γὰρ ἐπιστητὸν  
 πρὸς ἐπιστήμην λέγεται. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν  
 ἄλλων, ἐπειδὴ ἀντιστρέφει πάντα τὰ πρὸς τι.  
 ἔτι εἴπερ ὃ μὴ καθ' αὐτὸ ἀλλὰ κατὰ συμβεβηκὸς  
 τὴν ἀπόδοσιν ποιούμενος ὀρθῶς ἀποδίδωσιν, οὐ  
 15 πρὸς ἐν ἀλλὰ πρὸς πλείω ἕκαστον ἂν τῶν πρὸς



new expression has been substituted for 'odd.' Now a line and a body also have a middle, though they are not 'odd,' so that this could not be a definition of 'odd.' But if the expression 'having a middle' is used in several senses, the sense in which 'having a middle' is used must be defined. This will either result in the destructive criticism of the definition or prove that no definition has been given.

Again, you must see whether the term of which he is giving the description has a real existence, whereas what is given in the description has not. An example of this is the definition of 'white' as 'colour mixed with fire'; for it is impossible for that which is without body to be mixed with a body, so that 'colour' 'mixed with fire' could not exist, whereas 'white' does exist.

Furthermore, those who, in dealing with relative terms, fail to distinguish what it is to which the subject is related, but, in describing it, include it amongst a number of things, are either wholly or partly in error; for example, if one described 'medicine' as a 'science of reality.' For, if medicine is not a science of anything real, he is wholly wrong, but, if it is a science of something which is real but not of something else which is real, he is partly wrong; for it ought to be a science of all reality, if it is described as being a science of reality essentially and not accidentally (as is true of all the other relative terms); for every 'object of science' is used in relation to science. So likewise with the other relative terms, since they are all convertible. Furthermore, if he who gives an account of anything not as it really is but as it is accidentally, is giving a correct account, every relative term would be employed in

thing else also?

(b) Is the subject to be defined existent, but the description non-existent?

(c) When a relation is defined, is that to which the subject is related too wide in extent?

τι λέγοιτο. οὐδέν γὰρ κωλύει τὸ αὐτὸ καὶ ὄν καὶ  
 λευκὸν καὶ ἀγαθὸν εἶναι, ὥστε πρὸς ὁποιοιοῦν  
 τούτων ἀποδιδούς ὀρθῶς ἂν εἴη ἀποδιδούς, εἴπερ  
 ὁ κατὰ συμβεβηκὸς ἀποδιδούς ὀρθῶς ἀποδίδωσιν.  
 ἔτι δ' ἀδύνατον τὸν τοιοῦτον λόγον ἴδιον τοῦ  
 20 ἀποδοθέντος εἶναι. οὐ γὰρ μόνον ἡ ἰατρικὴ ἀλλὰ  
 καὶ τῶν ἄλλων ἐπιστημῶν αἱ πολλαὶ πρὸς ὃν λέ-  
 γονται, ὥσθ' ἐκάστη ὄντος ἐπιστήμη ἔσται. δῆλον  
 οὖν ὅτι ὁ τοιοῦτος οὐδεμιᾶς ἐστὶν ἐπιστήμης ὀρι-  
 σμός· ἴδιον γὰρ καὶ οὐ κοινὸν δεῖ τὸν ὀρισμὸν  
 εἶναι.

Ἐνίστε δ' ὀρίζονται οὐ τὸ πρᾶγμα, ἀλλὰ τὸ  
 25 πρᾶγμα εὖ ἔχον ἢ τετελεσμένον. τοιοῦτος δ' ὁ  
 τοῦ ῥήτορος καὶ ὁ τοῦ κλέπτου ὅρος, εἴπερ ἐστὶ  
 ῥήτωρ μὲν ὁ δυνάμενος τὸ ἐν ἐκάστῳ πιθανὸν  
 θεωρεῖν καὶ μηδὲν παραλείπειν, κλέπτῃς δ' ὁ λάθρα  
 λαμβάνων· δῆλον γὰρ ὅτι τοιοῦτος ὢν ἐκάτερος  
 ὁ μὲν ἀγαθὸς ῥήτωρ ὁ δ' ἀγαθὸς κλέπτῃς ἔσται.  
 30 οὐ γὰρ ὁ λάθρα λαμβάνων ἀλλ' ὁ βουλόμενος  
 λάθρα λαμβάνειν κλέπτῃς ἐστίν.

Πάλιν εἰ τὸ δι' αὐτὸ αἵρετόν ὥς ποιητικὸν ἢ  
 πρακτικὸν ἢ ὅπως οὖν δι' ἄλλο αἵρετόν ἀποδέδωκεν,  
 οἶον τὴν δικαιοσύνην νόμων σωστικὴν εἰπὼν ἢ  
 τὴν σοφίαν ποιητικὴν εὐδαιμονίας· τὸ γὰρ ποιη-  
 35 τικὸν ἢ σωστικὸν τῶν δι' ἄλλο αἵρετῶν. ἢ οὐδὲν  
 μὲν κωλύει τὸ δι' αὐτὸ αἵρετόν καὶ δι' ἄλλο εἶναι

relation not to one thing but to many things. For there is nothing to prevent the same thing being both real and white and good ; so that, if to give an account of a thing as it is accidentally is the correct method, one would be giving a correct account if one gave it in relation to any one of these. Furthermore, it is impossible for such a description to be peculiar to that of which the account has been given ; for not only medicine but most of the sciences also are employed in relation to something real, so that each of them will be a science of reality. Obviously, therefore, such a definition is not a definition of any science ; for the definition ought to be peculiar to one thing, not common to many.

Sometimes men define not the thing, but the thing in a good and perfect state. Examples of this are the definitions of an ' orator ' as ' he who can see what is a plausible argument on any occasion and omit nothing,' and of a ' thief ' as ' he who takes something by stealth ' ; for obviously, if they each act thus, the former will be a good orator, the latter a good thief ; for it is not he who actually takes something by stealth, but he who wishes to do so, that is really a thief.

Again, you must see whether the definer has represented what is worthy of choice for its own sake as being so because it produces or effects something or for some other reason, describing, for example, ' justice ' as ' preservative of the laws ' or ' wisdom ' as ' productive of happiness ' ; for what is preservative or productive is among the things which are worthy of choice for the sake of something else. Or, possibly, there is nothing to prevent what is worthy of choice for its own sake being also worthy of choice for some

(d) Is the definition not that of the subject as it is, but of a perfect form of it ?

(e) Is what is eligible *per se* defined as if it were eligible *propter aliud* ?

149 b

αἰρετόν, οὐ μὴν ἀλλ' οὐδὲν ἦττον ἡμάρτηκέν ὁ οὕτως ὀρισάμενος τὸ δι' αὐτὸ αἰρετόν· ἐκάστου γὰρ τὸ βέλτιστον ἐν τῇ οὐσίᾳ μάλιστα, βέλτιον δὲ τὸ δι' αὐτὸ αἰρετόν εἶναι τοῦ δι' ἕτερον, ὥστε τοῦτο καὶ τὸν ὀρισμὸν ἔδει μᾶλλον σημαίνειν.

150 a

XIII. Σκοπεῖν δὲ καὶ εἴ τινος ὀρισμὸν ἀποδιδούς τάδε ἢ τὸ ἐκ τούτων ἢ τόδε μετὰ τοῦδε ὠρίσατο. εἰ μὲν γὰρ τάδε, συμβήσεται ἀμφοῖν καὶ μηδετέρῳ ὑπάρχειν, οἷον εἰ τὴν δικαιοσύνην σωφροσύνην καὶ ἀνδρίαν ὠρίσατο· δύο γὰρ ὄντων  
 5 εἰάν ἐκάτερος θάτερον ἔχῃ, ἀμφοτέρω δίκαιοι ἔσονται καὶ οὐδέτερος, ἐπειδὴ ἀμφοτέρω μὲν ἔχουσι δικαιοσύνην, ἐκάτερος δ' οὐκ ἔχει. εἰ δὲ μήπω τὸ εἰρημένον σφόδρα ἄτοπον διὰ τὸ καὶ ἐπ' ἄλλων συμβαίνειν τὸ τοιοῦτον (οὐδὲν γὰρ κωλύει ἀμφοτέρους ἔχειν μὴν μηδετέρου ἔχοντος), ἀλλ'  
 10 οὖν τό γε τάναντία ὑπάρχειν αὐτοῖς παντελῶς ἄτοπον ἂν δόξειεν εἶναι. συμβήσεται δὲ τοῦτο, εἰάν ὁ μὲν αὐτῶν σωφροσύνην καὶ δειλίαν ἔχῃ, ὁ δὲ ἀνδρίαν καὶ ἀκολασίαν· ἀμφῶ γὰρ δικαιοσύνην καὶ ἀδικίαν ἔξουσιν. εἰ γὰρ ἡ δικαιοσύνη σωφροσύνη καὶ ἀνδρία ἐστίν, ἡ ἀδικία δειλία καὶ ἀκο-  
 15 λασία ἔσται. ὅλως τε ὅσα ἔστιν ἐπιχειρεῖν ὅτι οὐ ταυτόν ἐστι τὰ μέρη καὶ τὸ ὅλον, πάντα χρήσιμα πρὸς τὸ νῦν εἰρημένον· ἔοικε γὰρ ὁ οὕτως ὀριζόμενος  
 634



other reason ; but he who has thus defined what is worthy of choice for its own sake has nevertheless made a mistake ; for what is best in any particular thing is what is most inherent in its essence, and what is worthy of choice for its own sake is better than what is worthy of choice for some other reason, and it is this, therefore, which the definition ought to have signified.

XIII. You must also examine whether the definer in giving a definition of anything has defined it as either (1) 'A and B,' or (2) 'made up of A and B,' or (3) 'A plus B.' (1) If he defines it as 'A and B,' the result will be that it applies to both and neither, for example, if he has defined 'justice' as 'temperance and courage.' For if there are two persons each of whom has one of these qualities, the two together will be 'just,' but neither singly so, since both together they possess justice but each taken singly does not do so. If the above statement is not utterly ridiculous at first sight owing to the fact that this sort of thing occurs in other instances (*e.g.* there is nothing to prevent two persons together possessing a mina, though neither singly possesses it), yet at any rate it would be generally regarded as totally absurd that they should have contrary qualities ; and this will happen if one of them has temperance and cowardice, and the other justice and incontinence, for taken together they will have justice and injustice ; for, if justice is temperance and courage, injustice will be cowardice and incontinence. To speak generally, all the arguments that can be used to prove that the whole and its parts are not the same are useful for countering the statement made just now ; for he who defines in this manner appears to state that the

*How to deal with definitions which take the following forms :  
(a) X is 'A and B.'*

τὰ μέρη τῷ ὅλῳ ταῦτά φάσκειν εἶναι. μάλιστα  
 δ' οἰκεῖοι γίνονται οἱ λόγοι, ἐφ' ὅσων κατάδηλός  
 ἐστίν ἢ τῶν μερῶν σύνθεσις, καθάπερ ἐπ' οἰκίας  
 20 καὶ τῶν ἄλλων τῶν τοιούτων· δῆλον γὰρ ὅτι τῶν  
 μερῶν ὄντων οὐδὲν κωλύει τὸ ὅλον μὴ εἶναι, ὥστ'  
 οὐ ταῦτόν τὰ μέρη τῷ ὅλῳ.

Εἰ δὲ μὴ ταῦτα ἀλλὰ τὸ ἐκ τούτων ἔφησεν εἶναι  
 τὸ ὀριζόμενον, πρῶτον μὲν ἐπισκοπεῖν εἰ μὴ  
 πέφυκεν ἐν γίνεσθαι ἐκ τῶν εἰρημένων· ἔνια γὰρ  
 25 οὕτως ἔχει πρὸς ἀλλήλα ὥστε μηδὲν ἐξ αὐτῶν  
 γίνεσθαι, οἷον γραμμὴ καὶ ἀριθμός. ἔτι εἰ τὸ μὲν  
 ὠρισμένον ἐν ἐνί τινι πέφυκε τῷ πρώτῳ γίνεσθαι,  
 ἐξ ὧν δ' ἔφησεν αὐτὸ εἶναι, μὴ ἐν ἐνὶ τῷ πρώτῳ,  
 ἀλλ' ἐκάτερον ἐν ἐκάτέρῳ· δῆλον γὰρ ὅτι οὐκ ἂν  
 εἶη ἐκ τούτων ἐκεῖνο· ἐν οἷς γὰρ τὰ μέρη, καὶ τὸ  
 30 ὅλον ἀνάγκη ὑπάρχειν, ὥστ' οὐκ ἐν ἐνὶ τὸ ὅλον  
 πρώτῳ, ἀλλ' ἐν πλείοσιν. εἰ δὲ καὶ τὰ μέρη καὶ  
 τὸ ὅλον ἐν ἐνί τινι πρώτῳ, σκοπεῖν εἰ μὴ ἐν τῷ  
 αὐτῷ ἀλλ' ἐν ἐτέρῳ τὸ ὅλον καὶ ἐν ἐτέρῳ τὰ μέρη.  
 πάλιν εἰ τῷ ὅλῳ συμφθεῖρεται τὰ μέρη· ἀνάπαλιν  
 γὰρ δεῖ συμβαίνειν, τῶν μερῶν φθαρέντων φθει-  
 35 ρεσθαι τὸ ὅλον· τοῦ δ' ὅλου φθαρέντος οὐκ ἀνα-  
 γκαῖον καὶ τὰ μέρη ἐφθάρθαι. ἢ εἰ τὸ μὲν ὅλον  
 ἀγαθὸν ἢ κακόν, τὰ δὲ μηδέτερα, ἢ ἀνάπαλιν τὰ

parts are the same as the whole. But these arguments are specially appropriate when the process of compounding the parts is obvious, as in a house and all other such things ; for here it is obvious that, though the parts exist, there is no reason why the whole should not be non-existent, and so the parts are not the same as the whole.

(2) If, however, he has asserted that that which is being defined is not ' A and B ' but ' made up of A and B,' you must first of all consider whether it is unnatural for a single product to come into being from the said component parts ; for some things are so constituted in relation to one another that nothing can come into being from them, for example, a line and a number. Moreover, you must see whether what has been defined naturally comes into being primarily in some single thing, whereas those things which, according to his account, produce it, do not come into being primarily in any single thing but each in a different thing. For then obviously it could not come into being from these things ; for the whole must necessarily exist in those things in which the parts exist, so that the whole does not exist primarily in one thing only but in many. If, however, both the parts and the whole exist primarily in some single thing, you must see whether they exist in the same thing and not the whole in one thing and the parts in another. Again, you must see whether the parts perish when the whole perishes ; for the converse ought to happen, namely, that the whole perishes when the parts do so, and it does not necessarily follow that the parts also have perished when the whole has perished. Or, again, you must see whether the whole is good or bad, and the parts neither, or,

(b) *X is  
'made up  
of A and B.'*

150 a

μὲν ἀγαθὰ ἢ κακά, τὸ δ' ὅλον μηδέτερον· οὔτε γὰρ

150 b

ἐκ μηδετέρου δυνατόν ἢ ἀγαθόν τι ἢ κακὸν γενέσθαι,

οὔτ' ἐκ κακῶν ἢ ἀγαθῶν μηδέτερον. ἢ εἰ μᾶλλον  
μὲν θάτερον ἀγαθὸν ἢ θάτερον κακόν, τὸ δ' ἐκ  
τούτων μὴ μᾶλλον ἀγαθὸν ἢ κακόν, οἷον εἰ ἡ  
ἀναίδεια ἐξ ἀνδρίας καὶ ψευδοῦς δόξης. μᾶλλον

5 γὰρ ἀγαθὸν ἢ ἀνδρία ἢ κακὸν ἢ ψευδῆς δόξα· ἔδει  
οὖν καὶ τὸ ἐκ τούτων ἀκολουθεῖν τῷ μᾶλλον,  
καὶ εἶναι ἢ ἀπλῶς ἀγαθὸν ἢ μᾶλλον ἀγαθὸν ἢ  
κακόν. ἢ τοῦτο μὲν οὐκ ἀναγκαῖον, ἐὰν μὴ ἐκά-  
τερον ἢ καθ' αὐτὸ ἀγαθὸν ἢ κακόν· πολλὰ γὰρ  
τῶν ποιητικῶν καθ' αὐτὰ μὲν οὐκ ἔστιν ἀγαθὰ,  
10 μιχθέντα δέ, ἢ ἀνάπαλιν, ἐκάτερον μὲν ἀγαθόν, μι-  
χθέντα δὲ κακὸν ἢ οὐδέτερον. μάλιστα δὲ κατα-  
φανές τὸ νῦν ῥηθὲν ἐπὶ τῶν ὑγιεινῶν καὶ νοσωδῶν·  
ἔνια γὰρ τῶν φαρμάκων οὕτως ἔχει ὥσθ' ἐκάτε-  
ρον μὲν εἶναι ἀγαθόν, ἐὰν δ' ἄμφω δοθῇ μιχθέντα,  
κακόν.

Πάλιν εἰ ἐκ βελτίονος καὶ χείρονος ὃν μή ἐστι  
15 τὸ ὅλον τοῦ μὲν βελτίονος χείρον, τοῦ δὲ χείρονος  
βέλτιον. ἢ οὐδὲ τοῦτ' ἀναγκαῖον, ἐὰν μὴ καθ'  
αὐτὰ ἢ τὰ ἐξ ὧν σύγκειται ἀγαθὰ, ἀλλ' οὐδὲν  
κωλύει τὸ ὅλον μὴ γίνεσθαι ἀγαθόν, καθάπερ ἐπὶ  
τῶν ἀρτίως ῥηθέντων.

"Ἐτι εἰ συνώνυμον τὸ ὅλον θατέρῳ· οὐ δεῖ γάρ,  
20 καθάπερ οὐδ' ἐπὶ τῶν συλλαβῶν· οὐδενὶ γὰρ τῶν  
στοιχείων ἐξ ὧν σύγκειται ἡ συλλαβὴ συνώνυμός  
ἐστιν.



conversely, whether the parts are good or bad and the whole neither ; for it is impossible that anything either good or bad should come into being from something which is neither, or anything which is neither from things which are good or bad. Or, again, you must see whether the one thing has more good in it than the other has evil, and yet the product of the two has not more good in it than evil, as, for example, in the definition of ' shamelessness ' as ' made up of courage and false opinion.' For courage has more good in it than false opinion has evil, and so their product ought to maintain this excess and be either good absolutely or good rather than bad. Or, perhaps this does not necessarily follow, unless each is in itself good or bad ; for many of the things which produce effects are not good in themselves but only when mingled together, or, conversely, are good separately but either good or neither good nor bad when mingled together. The state of affairs just described is best seen in things which produce health and disease ; for some drugs are so constituted as each separately to be good whereas they are bad if given in a mixture.

Again, you must see whether the whole, when it is made up of a better and a worse, fails to be worse than the better and better than the worse. Perhaps this too does not necessarily follow, unless the component parts are themselves good ; but there is nothing to prevent the whole being good, as in the cases just mentioned.

Furthermore, you must see whether the whole is synonymous with one of the parts ; for it ought not to be so, any more than occurs in the case of syllables, for the syllable is not synonymous with any of the letters of which it is composed.

Ἔτι εἰ μὴ εἴρηκε τὸν τρόπον τῆς συνθέσεως.  
οὐ γὰρ αὐταρκες πρὸς τὸ γινώρισαι τὸ εἰπεῖν ἐκ  
τούτων· οὐ γὰρ τὸ ἐκ τούτων, ἀλλὰ τὸ οὕτως ἐκ  
25 τούτων ἐκάστου τῶν συνθέτων ἢ οὐσία, καθάπερ  
ἐπ' οἰκίας· οὐ γὰρ ἂν ὁπωσοῦν συντεθῇ ταῦτα,  
οἰκία ἐστίν.

Εἰ δὲ τότε μετὰ τοῦδε ἀποδέδωκε, πρῶτον μὲν  
ῥητέον ὅτι τότε μετὰ τοῦδε ἢ τοῖσδε ταῦτὸν ἢ  
τῷ ἐκ τῶνδε· ὁ γὰρ λέγων μέλι μεθ' ὕδατος ἦτοι  
30 μέλι καὶ ὕδωρ λέγει ἢ τὸ ἐκ μέλιτος καὶ ὕδατος,  
ὥστ' εἶναι ὁποτέρωθεν τῶν εἰρημένων ταῦτὸν ὁμο-  
λογήσῃ εἶναι τὸ τότε μετὰ τοῦδε, ταῦτα ἀρμόσει  
λέγειν ἅπερ πρὸς ἐκάτερον τούτων ἔμπροσθεν  
εἴρηται. ἔτι διελόμενον ὁσαχῶς λέγεται ἕτερον  
μεθ' ἐτέρου, σκοπεῖν εἰ μηδαμῶς τότε μετὰ τοῦδε.  
35 οἷον εἰ λέγεται ἕτερον μεθ' ἐτέρου ἢ ὥς ἔν τινι  
ταύτῳ δεκτικῷ, καθάπερ ἢ δικαιοσύνη καὶ ἢ  
ἀνδρία ἐν ψυχῇ, ἢ ἐν τόπῳ τῷ αὐτῷ ἢ ἐν χρόνῳ  
τῷ αὐτῷ, μηδαμῶς δ' ἀληθὲς τὸ εἰρημένον ἐπὶ  
τούτων, δῆλον ὅτι οὐδενὸς ἂν εἴη ὁ ἀποδοθεὶς  
151 a ὁρισμός, ἐπειδὴ οὐδαμῶς τότε μετὰ τοῦδέ ἐστιν.  
εἰ δὲ τῶν διαιρεθέντων ἀληθὲς τὸ ἐν ταύτῳ χρόνῳ  
ἐκάτερον ὑπάρχειν, σκοπεῖν εἰ ἐνδέχεται μὴ πρὸς  
ταῦτὸν λέγεσθαι ἐκάτερον. οἷον εἰ τὴν ἀνδρίαν  
ὠρίσατο τόλμαν μετὰ διανοίας ὀρθῆς· ἐνδέχεται  
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Furthermore, you must see whether he has omitted to state the method of their composition ; for merely to say that something is made up of this and that is not enough to make the matter clear. For the essence of each compound is not merely that it is made up of this and that, but that it is made up of this and that compounded in a particular way, as in the case of a house ; for this and that material put together anyhow does not constitute a house.

(3) If he has given a definition of something in the form of ' A plus B,' the first thing that must be stated is that ' A plus B ' is equivalent to either ' A and B ' or ' made up of A and B.' For he who speaks of ' honey plus water ' means either ' honey and water ' or else something ' made up of honey and water.' If, therefore, he admits that ' A plus B ' is the same as either of the above, it will be relevant to use the same arguments as have been employed before against each of them. Furthermore, you must distinguish the various senses in which something is said to be ' plus ' something else, and see whether it is impossible for A to be in any sense ' plus B.' For example, if it means that A is plus B in the sense either that they are contained in an identical receptacle (like justice and courage in the soul), or in the same place or time, whereas the sense assigned is in no way true of A and B, it is obvious that the definition given could not apply to anything, since in no possible way can A be ' plus B.' If, however, among the various senses which we have distinguished, it is true that A and B each exist at the same time, you must look whether it is possible that each is used in a different relation. Suppose, for example, that ' daring plus right opinion ' has been given as the definition of ' courage ' ;

(c) X is ' A  
plus B.'

151 a

- 5 γὰρ τόλμαν μὲν ἔχειν τοῦ ἀποστερεῖν, ὀρθὴν δὲ  
 διάνοιαν περὶ τὰ ὑγιεινά· ἀλλ' οὐδέπω ἀνδρεῖος  
 ὁ ἐν τῷ αὐτῷ χρόνῳ τόδε μετὰ τοῦδε ἔχων. ἔτι  
 εἰ καὶ πρὸς ταῦτόν ἄμφω λέγεται, οἷον πρὸς τὰ  
 ἱατρικά· οὐδὲν γὰρ κωλύει καὶ τόλμαν καὶ ὀρθὴν  
 διάνοιαν ἔχειν πρὸς τὰ ἱατρικά· ἀλλ' ὁμως οὐδ'  
 10 οὗτος ἀνδρεῖος ὁ τόδε μετὰ τοῦδε ἔχων. οὔτε  
 γὰρ πρὸς ἕτερον αὐτῶν ἐκάτερον δεῖ λέγεσθαι οὔτε  
 πρὸς ταῦτόν τὸ τυχόν, ἀλλὰ πρὸς τὸ τῆς ἀνδρίας  
 τέλος, οἷον πρὸς τοὺς πολεμικοὺς κινδύνους ἢ εἴ  
 τι μᾶλλον τούτου τέλος.

Ἔνια δὲ τῶν οὕτως ἀποδιδομένων οὐδαμῶς  
 15 ὑπὸ τὴν εἰρημένην πίπτει διαίρεσιν, οἷον εἰ ἡ  
 ὀργὴ λύπη μεθ' ὑπολήψεως τοῦ ὀλιγωρεῖσθαι.  
 ὅτι γὰρ διὰ τὴν ὑπόληψιν τὴν τοιαύτην ἡ λύπη  
 γίνεται, τοῦτο βούλεται δηλοῦν· τὸ δὲ διὰ τόδε  
 γίνεσθαι τι οὐκ ἔστι ταῦτόν τῳ μετὰ τούτου τόδ'  
 εἶναι κατ' οὐδένα τῶν εἰρημένων τρόπων.

- 20 XIV. Πάλιν εἰ τὴν τούτων σύνθεσιν εἶρηκε τὸ  
 ὅλον, οἷον τῆς ψυχῆς καὶ τοῦ σώματος σύνθεσιν  
 ζῶον, πρῶτον μὲν σκοπεῖν εἰ μὴ εἶρηκε ποία  
 σύνθεσις, καθάπερ εἰ σάρκα ὀριζόμενος ἢ ὀστοῦν  
 τὴν πυρὸς καὶ γῆς καὶ ἀέρος εἶπε σύνθεσιν. οὐ  
 γὰρ ἀπόχρη τὸ σύνθεσιν εἶπεῖν, ἀλλὰ καὶ ποία  
 25 τις προσδιοριστέον· οὐ γὰρ ὅπως οὖν συντεθέντων  
 τούτων σὰρξ γίνεται, ἀλλ' οὕτωςι μὲν συντεθέντων  
 σὰρξ, οὕτωςι δ' ὀστοῦν. ἔοικε δ' οὐδ' εἶναι τὸ



it is possible for a man to show daring in committing robbery, and right opinion about matters of health, but he who possesses the former plus the latter at the same time is far from being courageous. Moreover, even if both are used in the same relation, for example, in matters of health (for there is no reason why a man should not show both daring and right opinion in matters of health), yet, for all that, the man who possesses the one plus the other is not 'brave.' For each must be related neither to some different object nor to some chance object which is identical, but to the true function of courage, for example, facing the dangers of war or anything which is a still more characteristic function of courage.

Some of the definitions given in this manner do not fall under the above division at all, for example, that of 'anger' as 'pain plus an idea that one is slighted.' For the purpose of the definition is to show that the pain is caused by an idea of this kind; but to say that it is 'caused by' a thing is not the same as saying that it is 'plus' that thing in any of the senses mentioned.

XIV. Again, if he has described the whole as a composition of such and such things, for example, a 'living creature' as a 'composition of soul and body,' you must, first of all, see whether he has failed to state the kind of composition, as, for example, in the definition of 'flesh' or 'bone' as a 'composition of fire, earth and air.' For it is not enough to speak of composition, but the kind of composition must be further defined; for flesh is not formed of these components put together anyhow, but there is one form of composition for flesh and another for bone. Now it seems likely that neither of the said substances

*Various rules:*

(a) When something has been defined as a compound whole, insist on a statement of the nature of the composition.

151 a

παράπαν συνθέσει ταὐτὸν οὐδέτερον τῶν εἰρη-  
 μένων· συνθέσει μὲν γὰρ πάσῃ διάλυσιν ἐναντίον,  
 τῶν δ' εἰρημένων οὐδετέρῳ οὐδέν. ἔτι εἰ ὁμοίως  
 30 πιθανὸν πᾶν τὸ σύνθετον σύνθεσιν εἶναι ἢ μηδέν,  
 τῶν δὲ ζώων ἕκαστον σύνθετον ὃν μὴ ἐστὶ σύν-  
 θεσις, οὐδὲ τῶν ἄλλων οὐδέν τῶν συνθέτων  
 σύνθεσις ἂν εἴη.

Πάλιν εἰ ὁμοίως ἐν τινὶ πέφυκεν ὑπάρχειν  
 τᾶναντία, ὥρισται δὲ διὰ θατέρου, δηλὸν ὅτι οὐχ  
 ὥρισται. εἰ δὲ μή, πλείους τοῦ αὐτοῦ συμβήσεται  
 35 ὁρισμοὺς εἶναι· τί γὰρ μᾶλλον ὁ διὰ τούτου ἢ ὁ  
 διὰ τοῦ ἑτέρου ὁρισάμενος εἴρηκεν, ἐπειδὴ ὁμοίως  
 ἀμφοτέρω πέφυκε γίνεσθαι ἐν αὐτῷ; τοιοῦτος δ'  
 151 b ὁ τῆς ψυχῆς ὅρος, εἰ ἐστὶν οὐσία ἐπιστήμης  
 δεκτικῆ· ὁμοίως γὰρ καὶ ἀγνοίας ἐστὶ δεκτικῆ.

Δεῖ δὲ καὶ εἶναι μὴ πρὸς ὅλον ἔχειν τις ἐπιχειρεῖν  
 τὸν ὁρισμὸν διὰ τὸ μὴ γνώριμόν εἶναι τὸ ὅλον,  
 5 πρὸς τῶν μερῶν τι ἐπιχειρεῖν, εἶναι ἢ γνώριμον  
 καὶ μὴ καλῶς ἀποδοδεκτικόν φαίνεται· τοῦ γὰρ  
 μέρους ἀναιρεθέντος καὶ ὁ πᾶς ὁρισμὸς ἀναιρεῖται.  
 ὅσοι τ' ἀσαφεῖς τῶν ὁρισμῶν, συνδιωρθώσαντα  
 καὶ συσχηματίσαντα πρὸς τὸ δηλοῦν τι καὶ ἔχειν  
 ἐπιχείρημα, οὕτως ἐπισκοπεῖν· ἀναγκαῖον γὰρ τῷ  
 10 ἀποκρινομένῳ ἢ δέχεσθαι τὸ ἐκλαμβανόμενον ὑπὸ  
 τοῦ ἐρωτῶντος, ἢ αὐτὸν διασαφῆσαι τί ποτε  
 τυγχάνει τὸ δηλούμενον ὑπὸ τοῦ λόγου. ἔτι καθ-  
 ἄπερ ἐν ταῖς ἐκκλησίαις νόμον εἰώθασιν ἐπεισφέ-  
 ρειν, καὶ ἢ βελτίων ὁ ἐπεισφερόμενος, ἀναιροῦσι  
 τὸν ἔμπροσθεν, οὕτω καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ὁρισμῶν ποιητέον

is at all the same as a 'composition'; for every 'composition' has as its contrary a 'decomposition,' and neither flesh nor bone has a contrary. Further, if it is probable that every compound alike is a composition or else that none is so, and every living creature, though it is a compound, is not a composition, then neither could any other compound be a composition.

Again, if it is natural for contraries to have an equal existence in a thing, and it has been defined by means of one of them, clearly it has not really been defined; for else the result will be that there is more than one definition of the same thing. For in what respect has he who has given a definition by means of one contrary described it better than he who has defined by means of the other, since both are equally likely to occur in it? The definition of 'soul' as 'substance receptive of knowledge' is a case in point; for it is equally also receptive of ignorance.

Also, even though one cannot attack the definition as a whole, because one is not familiar with it as a whole, yet one ought to attack a part of it, if one is familiar with that part and it has obviously been incorrectly assigned; for if part is subverted, the whole definition is subverted also. When definitions are obscure, you should correct and remodel them so as to make some part clear and have something to attack, and then make your examination; for the answerer must either accept the interpretation suggested by the questioner or himself make clear what is indicated by the description. Furthermore, just as in public assemblies it is customary to introduce a new law and, if the newly introduced law is better, to abrogate the old one, so one ought to deal with

(b) Observe whether that which has been defined by one contrary is capable of both.

(c) If you cannot attack the definition as whole, attack part of it, or emend it.

151 b

15 καὶ αὐτὸν ὁρισμὸν ἕτερον οἰστέον· ἐὰν γὰρ φαίνηται  
 βελτίων καὶ μᾶλλον δηλῶν τὸ ὀριζόμενον, δῆλον  
 ὅτι ἀνηρημένος ἔσται ὁ κείμενος, ἐπειδὴ οὐκ εἰσὶ  
 πλείους τοῦ αὐτοῦ ὀρισμοί.

Πρὸς ἅπαντας δὲ τοὺς ὀρισμοὺς οὐκ ἐλάχιστον  
 στοιχεῖον τὸ πρὸς ἑαυτὸν εὐστόχως ὀρίσασθαι τὸ  
 20 προκείμενον ἢ καλῶς εἰρημένον ὅρον ἀναλαβεῖν·  
 ἀνάγκη γάρ, ὥσπερ πρὸς παράδειγμα θεώμενον,  
 τό τ' ἐλλείπον ὧν προσήκεν ἔχειν τὸν ὀρισμὸν  
 καὶ τὸ προσκείμενον περιέργως καθορᾶν, ὥστε  
 μᾶλλον ἐπιχειρημάτων εὐπορεῖν.

Τὰ μὲν οὖν περὶ τοὺς ὀρισμοὺς ἐπὶ τοσούτον  
 εἰρήσθω.



definitions, too, and oneself bring forward another one ; for, if it is obviously a better definition and gives a better indication of the object defined, clearly the definition already laid down will have been subverted, since there is never more than one definition of the same thing.

In dealing with any definition, it is a most important elementary principle to make a shrewd guess in one's own mind at the definition of the object before one or else to take over some happily expressed definition. For it necessarily follows that, with a model, as it were, before one, one can see anything that is lacking which the definition ought to contain and any needless addition, and thus be better provided in the points for attack.

(d) It is advantageous to make a definition of one's own.

Let so much, therefore, suffice for our treatment of definitions.

## Η

- 151 b 28 I. Πότερον δὲ ταῦτόν ἢ ἕτερον κατὰ τὸν κυριώ-  
 τατον τῶν ῥηθέντων περὶ ταύτου τρόπων (ἐλέγετο  
 30 δὲ κυριώτατα ταῦτόν τὸ τῷ ἀριθμῷ ἔν) σκοπεῖν  
 ἔκ τε τῶν πτώσεων καὶ τῶν συστοίχων καὶ τῶν  
 ἀντικειμένων. εἰ γὰρ ἡ δικαιοσύνη ταῦτόν τῇ  
 ἀνδρίᾳ, καὶ ὁ δίκαιος τῷ ἀνδρείῳ καὶ τὸ δικαίως  
 τῷ ἀνδρείως. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἀντικειμένων.  
 εἰ γὰρ τάδε ταῦτά, καὶ τὰ ἀντικείμενα τούτοις  
 35 ταῦτά καθ' ὅποιαν οὖν τῶν λεγομένων ἀντιθέσεων.  
 οὐδὲν γὰρ διαφέρει τὸ τούτῳ ἢ τούτῳ ἀντικείμενον  
 λαβεῖν, ἐπειδὴ ταῦτόν ἐστιν. πάλιν ἐκ τῶν ποιη-  
 152 a τικῶν καὶ φθαρτικῶν καὶ γενέσεως καὶ φθορῶν  
 καὶ ὅλως τῶν ὁμοίως ἐχόντων πρὸς ἑκάτερον.  
 ὅσα γὰρ ἀπλῶς ταῦτά, καὶ αἱ γενέσεις αὐτῶν  
 καὶ αἱ φθοραὶ αἱ αὐταί, καὶ τὰ ποιητικὰ καὶ  
 φθαρτικά.  
 5 Σκοπεῖν δὲ καὶ ὧν θάτερον μάλιστα λέγεται  
 ὅτι οὖν, εἰ καὶ θάτερον τῶν αὐτῶν τούτων κατὰ  
 τὸ αὐτὸ μάλιστα λέγεται, καθάπερ Ξενοκράτης  
 648

## BOOK VII

I. WHETHER things are 'the same' or 'different' in the strictest verbal sense of the term 'same'—and we said <sup>a</sup> that sameness in its strictest sense is numerical oneness—should be examined from the point of view of their inflexions and co-ordinates and opposites. For if justice is the same as courage, then also the just man is the same as the courageous, and 'justly' the same as 'courageously.' So likewise with opposites also; for, if two things are the same, their opposites, in accordance with any of the so-called oppositions, are also the same. For it makes no difference whether one takes the opposite of the one or of the other, since they are the same. Again, an examination should be made from the point of view of the agents of their production or destruction and their coming-into-being and destruction, and generally, of anything which stands in a similar relation to each of them; for, when things are absolutely the same, their coming-into-being and destruction are also the same and so are the agents of their production and destruction.

*Rules for dealing with things which are said to be 'the same':*  
(a) Identity can be proved by looking at their inflexions, co-ordinates and opposites; also at the agents of their production and destruction.

You must also examine, when one of two things is said to be something in a superlative degree, whether the other of these same things also attains a superlative degree in the same respect. For

(b) When one of two same things is said to have some quality in a superlative

<sup>a</sup> 103 a 23.

- τὸν εὐδαίμονα βίον καὶ τὸν σπουδαῖον ἀποδείκνυσι  
 τὸν αὐτόν, ἐπειδὴ πάντων τῶν βίων αἰρετώτατος  
 ὁ σπουδαῖος καὶ ὁ εὐδαίμων· ἐν γὰρ τὸ αἰρετώτα-  
 10 τον καὶ μέγιστον. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων  
 τῶν τοιούτων. δεῖ δ' ἐκάτερον ἐν ἀριθμῷ εἶναι  
 τὸ λεγόμενον μέγιστον ἢ αἰρετώτατον. εἰ δὲ μή,  
 οὐκ ἔσται δεδειγμένον ὅτι ταῦτόν· οὐ γὰρ ἀναγ-  
 καῖον, εἰ ἀνδρειότατοι τῶν Ἑλλήνων Πελοποννήσιοι  
 καὶ Λακεδαιμόνιοι, τοὺς αὐτοὺς εἶναι Πελο-  
 15 ποννησίους Λακεδαιμονίους, ἐπειδὴ οὐχ εἰς ἀριθμῷ  
 Πελοποννήσιος οὐδὲ Λακεδαιμόνιος. ἀλλὰ περι-  
 ἔχεσθαι μὲν τὸν ἕτερον ὑπὸ τοῦ ἐτέρου ἀναγκαῖον,  
 καθάπερ οἱ Λακεδαιμόνιοι ὑπὸ τῶν Πελοποννη-  
 σίων. εἰ δὲ μή, συμβήσεται ἀλλήλων εἶναι  
 βελτίους, ἂν μὴ περιέχωνται οἱ ἕτεροι ὑπὸ τῶν  
 20 ἐτέρων. ἀναγκαῖον γὰρ τοὺς Πελοποννησίους βελ-  
 τίους εἶναι τῶν Λακεδαιμονίων, εἴπερ μὴ περι-  
 ἔχονται οἱ ἕτεροι ὑπὸ τῶν ἐτέρων· πάντων γὰρ  
 τῶν λοιπῶν εἰσὶ βελτίους. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ τοὺς Λα-  
 κεδαιμονίους ἀνάγκη βελτίους εἶναι τῶν Πελο-  
 ποννησίων· καὶ γὰρ καὶ οὗτοι πάντων τῶν λοιπῶν  
 25 εἰσὶ βελτίους. ὥστε ἀλλήλων βελτίους γίνονται.  
 δηλὸν οὖν ὅτι ἐν ἀριθμῷ δεῖ εἶναι τὸ βέλτιστον  
 καὶ μέγιστον λεγόμενον, εἰ μέλλει ὅτι ταῦτόν  
 ἀποδείκνυσθαι. διὸ καὶ Ξενοκράτης οὐκ ἀπο-  
 δείκνυσιν· οὐ γὰρ εἰς ἀριθμῷ ὁ εὐδαίμων οὐδ' ὁ  
 σπουδαῖος βίος, ὥστ' οὐκ ἀναγκαῖον τὸν αὐτόν  
 εἶναι, διότι ἄμφω αἰρετώτατοι, ἀλλὰ τὸν ἕτερον  
 30 ὑπὸ τὸν ἕτερον.



instance, Xenocrates <sup>a</sup> tries to show that the happy life and the good life are the same, since of all lives the good life and the happy life are most worthy of choice ; for only one thing can be characterized as ' the most worthy of choice ' and ' the greatest.' So likewise with all other such things also. But each of two things which is described as ' greatest ' or ' most worthy of choice ' must be numerically one, otherwise it will not have been shown that they are the same ; for it does not necessarily follow that, if the Peloponnesians and the Lacedaemonians are the bravest of the Greeks, the Peloponnesians are the same as the Lacedaemonians, since neither ' Peloponnesian ' nor ' Lacedaemonian ' is a numerically single thing ; but it merely follows that the one group must be included in the other, just as the Lacedaemonians are included in the Peloponnesians. Otherwise, if one group is not included in the other, the result will be that each is better than the other. For it necessarily follows that the Peloponnesians are better than the Lacedaemonians, if the one group is not included in the other ; for they are both better than any-one else. Similarly, too, the Lacedaemonians must be better than the Peloponnesians ; for they also are better than anyone else. Thus they are each better than the other. It is obvious, therefore, that what is described as ' best ' and ' greatest ' must be numerically one if it is going to be shown to be ' the same ' as something else. For this reason, too, Xenocrates does not prove his contention ; for neither the happy life nor the good life is numerically one, so that they are not necessarily the same because they are both most worthy of choice, but only that one must fall under the other.

degree, or  
whether  
this is true  
of the other.

152 a

Πάλιν σκοπεῖν εἰ ᾧ θάτερον ταυτόν, καὶ θάτερον·  
εἰ γὰρ μὴ ἀμφότερα τῷ αὐτῷ ταυτά, δηλον ὅτι  
οὐδ' ἀλλήλοις.

"Ετι ἐκ τῶν τούτοις συμβεβηκότων, καὶ οἷς  
ταῦτα συμβέβηκεν, ἐπισκοπεῖν· ὅσα γὰρ θατέρω  
35 συμβέβηκε, καὶ θατέρω δεῖ συμβεβηκέναι, καὶ  
οἷς θάτερον αὐτῶν συμβέβηκε, καὶ θάτερον δεῖ  
συμβεβηκέναι. εἰ δέ τι τούτων διαφωνεῖ, δηλον  
ὅτι οὐ ταυτά.

'Ορᾶν δὲ καὶ εἰ μὴ ἐν ἐνὶ γένει κατηγορίας  
ἀμφότερα, ἀλλὰ τὸ μὲν ποιὸν τὸ δὲ ποσὸν ἢ πρὸς  
152 b τι δηλοῖ. πάλιν εἰ τὸ γένος ἐκατέρου μὴ ταυτόν,  
ἀλλὰ τὸ μὲν ἀγαθὸν τὸ δὲ κακόν, ἢ τὸ μὲν ἀρετὴ  
τὸ δ' ἐπιστήμη. ἢ εἰ τὸ μὲν γένος ταυτόν, αἱ  
διαφοραὶ δὲ μὴ αἱ αὐταὶ ἐκατέρου κατηγοροῦνται,  
ἀλλὰ τοῦ μὲν ὅτι θεωρητικὴ ἐπιστήμη, τοῦ δ'  
5 ὅτι πρακτικὴ. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων.

"Ετι ἐκ τοῦ μᾶλλον, εἰ τὸ μὲν δέχεται τὸ μᾶλλον  
τὸ δὲ μή, ἢ εἰ ἄμφω μὲν δέχεται, μὴ ἅμα δέ,  
καθάπερ ὁ μᾶλλον ἐρῶν οὐ μᾶλλον ἐπιθυμεῖ τῆς  
συνουσίας, ὥστ' οὐ ταυτόν ἔρως καὶ ἐπιθυμία  
συνουσίας.

10 "Ετι ἐκ τῆς προσθέσεως, εἰ τῷ αὐτῷ ἐκάτερον  
προστιθέμενόν μὴ ποιεῖ τὸ ὅλον ταυτόν. ἢ εἰ τοῦ  
αὐτοῦ ἀφ' ἐκατέρου ἀφαιρεθέντος τὸ λοιπὸν ἔτε-  
652

## TOPICA, VII. 1

Again, you must see whether, when the one of two things is the same as a third thing, the other is also the same as it ; for, if they are not the same as the same thing, obviously they are not the same as one another either.

(c) See whether each of two same things is the same as a third thing.

Furthermore, you must examine them from the point of view of their accidents or of the things of which they are accidents ; for any accident of the one must also be an accident of the other, and, if the one of them is an accident of something else, so must the other be also. For, if there is any discrepancy on these points, obviously they are not the same.

(d) Observe whether their accidents are the same.

You must also see whether they fail both to fall in the same class of predicates, but one signifies a quality, the other a quantity or a relation ; again, whether the genus of each fails to be the same, the one being ' good ' and the other ' evil,' or the one ' virtue ' and the other ' knowledge ' ; or whether, though the genus is the same, the differentiae predicated of either of them are not the same, that of one being ' speculative ' and that of the other ' practical ' knowledge. And so likewise with the other instances.

(e) See whether both are in the same category and genus, and have the same differentiae.

Furthermore, from the point of view of the greater degree, you must see whether the one admits of the greater degree while the other does not, or whether both admit of it but not at the same time ; for example, he who is more in love has not a greater desire for intercourse, and so love and the desire for intercourse are not the same thing.

(f) See whether both simultaneously increase and diminish.

Furthermore, you must note the result of an addition and see whether each added to the same thing fails to produce the same whole ; or whether the subtraction of the same thing from each leaves the remainder different. Suppose, for example, someone

(g) Observe the effect of an addition on each of them.

ρον, οἷον εἰ διπλάσιον ἡμίσεος καὶ πολλαπλάσιον ἡμίσεος ταῦτόν ἔφησεν εἶναι. ἀφαιρεθέντος γὰρ ἀφ' ἑκατέρου τοῦ ἡμίσεος τὰ λοιπὰ ταῦτόν ἔδει  
 15 δηλοῦν, οὐ δηλοῖ δέ· τὸ γὰρ διπλάσιον καὶ πολλαπλάσιον οὐ ταῦτόν δηλοῖ.

Σκοπεῖν δὲ μὴ μόνον εἰ ἤδη τι συμβαίνει ἀδύνατον διὰ τῆς θέσεως, ἀλλὰ καὶ εἰ δυνατόν ἐξ ὑποθέσεως ὑπάρξει, καθάπερ τοῖς τὸ κενὸν καὶ  
 20 τὸ πλήρες ἀέρος ταῦτόν φάσκουσιν. δῆλον γὰρ ὅτι ἐὰν ἐξέλθῃ ὁ αἶρ, κενὸν μὲν οὐχ ᾗσσον ἀλλὰ μᾶλλον ἔσται, πλήρες δ' ἀέρος οὐκέτι ἔσται. ὥστε ὑποτεθέντος τινὸς εἴτε ψευδοῦς εἴτ' ἀληθοῦς (οὐδὲν γὰρ διαφέρει) τὸ μὲν ἕτερον ἀναιρεῖται αὐτῶν, τὸ δ' ἕτερον οὔ. ὥστ' οὐ ταῦτόν.

25 Καθόλου δ' εἰπεῖν, ἐκ τῶν ὅπως οὖν ἑκατέρου κατηγορουμένων, καὶ ὧν ταῦτα κατηγορεῖται, σκοπεῖν εἴ που διαφωνεῖ· ὅσα γὰρ θατέρου κατηγορεῖται, καὶ θατέρου κατηγορεῖσθαι δεῖ, καὶ ὧν θάτερον κατηγορεῖται, καὶ θάτερον κατηγορεῖσθαι δεῖ.

30 Ἔτι ἐπεὶ πολλαχῶς ταῦτόν λέγεται, σκοπεῖν εἰ καὶ καθ' ἕτερόν τινα τρόπον ταῦτά ἐστιν· τὰ γὰρ εἶδει ἢ γένει ταῦτὰ ἢ οὐκ ἀνάγκῃ ἢ οὐκ ἐνδέχεται ἀριθμῶ ταῦτὰ εἶναι, ἐπισκοποῦμεν δὲ πότερον οὕτω ταῦτὰ ἢ οὐχ οὕτως.

Ἔτι εἰ δυνατόν θάτερον ἄνευ θατέρου εἶναι· οὐ  
 35 γὰρ ἂν εἴη ταῦτόν.



has stated that a 'double of a half' and a 'multiple of a half' are the same thing; then, if 'of a half' has been subtracted from each, the remainders ought to signify the same thing, which they do not; for 'double' and 'multiple' do not signify the same thing.

You must also look not only whether some impossibility immediately follows from the statement that two things are the same, but also whether it can result from a supposition, as, for example, when it is asserted that 'empty' and 'full of air' are the same thing. For it is obvious that, if the air has been expelled, the space will not be less but more empty, though it will be no longer full of air. So by a supposition, whether false or true (for it makes no difference), one of the two terms is subverted, while the other is not; and so they cannot be the same.

(h) Observe whether, as the result of a supposition, one of two same things is subverted, but not the other.

To speak generally, you should look at every possible predicate of each of the two terms and at the things of which they are predicated and see whether there is any discrepancy anywhere; for anything which is predicated of the one ought also to be predicated of the other, and of anything of which the one is a predicate the other also ought to be a predicate.

(i) Observe whether the same things may be predicated of both.

Furthermore, since 'sameness' is used in several senses, you should look whether things are the same in some different way also; for things which are the same specifically or generically are not necessarily the same or cannot possibly be the same numerically, and we examine whether they are or are not the same in this sense.

(j) Observe whether they are the same generically or specifically, but not numerically.

Furthermore, you must see whether the one can exist without the other; for then they cannot be the same.

II. Οἱ μὲν οὖν πρὸς ταὐτὸν τόποι τόσοῦτοι λέγονται. δῆλον δ' ἐκ τῶν εἰρημένων ὅτι ἅπαντες οἱ πρὸς ταὐτὸν ἀνασκευαστικοὶ τόποι καὶ πρὸς ὅρον χρήσιμοι, καθάπερ ἔμπροσθεν εἴρηται· εἰ γὰρ μὴ ταὐτὸν δηλοῖ τό τ' ὄνομα καὶ ὁ λόγος,  
 153 a δῆλον ὅτι οὐκ ἂν εἴη ὁρισμός ὁ ἀποδοθεὶς λόγος. τῶν δὲ κατασκευαστικῶν τόπων οὐδεὶς χρήσιμος πρὸς ὅρον· οὐ γὰρ ἀπόχρη δεῖξαι ταὐτὸν τὸ ὑπὸ τὸν λόγον καὶ τοῦνομα πρὸς τὸ κατασκευάσαι ὅτι ὁρισμός, ἀλλὰ καὶ τὰ ἄλλα πάντα δεῖ ἔχειν τὰ παρηγγελμένα τὸν ὁρισμόν.

III. Ἀναιρεῖν μὲν οὖν ὅρον οὕτως καὶ διὰ τούτων αἰεὶ πειρατέον· ἔαν δὲ κατασκευάζειν βουλόμεθα, πρῶτον μὲν εἰδέναι δεῖ ὅτι οὐδεὶς ἢ ὀλίγοι τῶν διαλεγομένων ὅρον συλλογίζονται, ἀλλὰ πάντες ἀρχὴν τὸ τοιοῦτον λαμβάνουσιν, οἷον οἱ τε περὶ  
 10 γεωμετρίαν καὶ ἀριθμοὺς καὶ τὰς ἄλλας τὰς τοιαύτας μαθήσεις· εἶθ' ὅτι δι' ἀκριβείας μὲν ἄλλης ἐστὶ πραγματείας ἀποδοῦναι καὶ τί ἐστὶν ὅρος καὶ πῶς ὀρίζεσθαι δεῖ, νῦν δ' ὅσον ἱκανὸν πρὸς τὴν παροῦσαν χρεῖαν, ὥστε τοσοῦτον μόνον λεκτέον ὅτι δυνατόν γενέσθαι ὁρισμοῦ καὶ τοῦ τι  
 15 ἦν εἶναι συλλογισμόν. εἰ γὰρ ἐστὶν ὅρος λόγος ὁ τὸ τί ἦν εἶναι τῷ πράγματι δηλῶν, καὶ δεῖ τὰ ἐν τῷ ὀρῷ κατηγορούμενα καὶ ἐν τῷ τί ἐστι τοῦ πράγματος μόνον κατηγορεῖσθαι, κατηγορεῖται δ' ἐν τῷ τί ἐστι τὰ γένη καὶ αἱ διαφοραί, φανερόν ὥς

<sup>a</sup> 102 a 11.

<sup>b</sup> 139 a 24 ff.

<sup>c</sup> *An. Post.* II. iii-xiii.

## TOPICA, VII. II-III

II. These, then, are the various commonplaces relating to 'sameness.' It is obvious from what has been said that all the destructive commonplaces dealing with sameness are also useful for dealing with definition, as has already been remarked <sup>a</sup>; for, if the term and the description do not signify the same thing, it is obvious that the description assigned cannot be a definition. On the other hand, none of the constructive commonplaces are useful for definition; for it is not enough to show that the content of the description and the term are the same in order to establish that the description is a definition, but the definition must possess also all the other characteristics which have been laid down.<sup>b</sup>

The rules given in the last chapter are useful for subverting but not for confirming a definition.

III. In this way and by these methods we must always try to destroy a definition; but, if we wish to construct one, in the first place, we must realize that few if any of those who hold discussions reason out a definition, but all take as their starting-point some such assumption as those take who deal with geometry and numbers and all other such studies. Secondly, we must realize that it belongs to another inquiry <sup>c</sup> to lay down accurately both what a definition is and how we must frame it, and that for the moment we need only go as far as is requisite for our present task and, therefore, we only need state that it is possible that there should be reasoning about a definition and the essence of a thing. For if a definition is a description which indicates the essence of a thing, and the predicates in the definition ought also to be the only ones to be predicated of the thing in the category of essence (and the genera and differentiae are predicated in the category of essence), it is obvious that, if one were to assume that A and

*Rules for establishing a definition:*  
(a) Method of confirming a definition.

153 a

εἴ τις λάβοι ταῦτα μόνα<sup>1</sup> ἐν τῷ τί ἐστι τοῦ πράγ-  
 20 ματος κατηγορεῖσθαι,<sup>2</sup> ὁ ταῦτα ἔχων λόγος ὅρος  
 ἐξ ἀνάγκης ἂν εἴη· οὐ γὰρ ἐνδέχεται ἕτερον εἶναι  
 ὅρον, ἐπειδὴ οὐδὲν ἕτερον ἐν τῷ τί ἐστι τοῦ πράγ-  
 ματος κατηγορεῖται.

Ὅτι μὲν οὖν ἐγχωρεῖ συλλογισμὸν ὅρου γενέσθαι,  
 φανερόν· ἐκ τίνων δὲ δεῖ κατασκευάζειν, διώριστα  
 25 μὲν ἐν ἐτέροις ἀκριβέστερον, πρὸς δὲ τὴν προκει-  
 μένην μέθοδον οἱ αὐτοὶ τόποι χρήσιμοι. σκεπτέον  
 γὰρ ἐπὶ τῶν ἐναντίων καὶ τῶν ἄλλων τῶν ἀντικει-  
 μένων, καὶ ὅλους τοὺς λόγους καὶ κατὰ μέρος  
 ἐπισκοποῦντα· εἰ γὰρ ὁ ἀντικείμενος τοῦ ἀντικει-  
 μένου, καὶ τὸν εἰρημένον τοῦ προκειμένου ἀνάγκη  
 30 εἶναι. ἐπεὶ δὲ τῶν ἐναντίων πλείους συμπλοκαί,  
 ληπτέον τῶν ἐναντίων, ὁποίου ἂν μάλιστα φανῇ  
 ὁ ἐναντίος ὀρισμός. ὅλους μὲν οὖν τοὺς λόγους  
 καθάπερ εἴρηται σκεπτέον, κατὰ μέρος δ' ὧδε.  
 πρῶτον μὲν οὖν ὅτι τὸ ἀποδοθὲν γένος ὀρθῶς  
 ἀποδέδοται. εἰ γὰρ τὸ ἐναντίον ἐν τῷ ἐναντίῳ,  
 35 τὸ δὲ προκείμενον μὴ ἐστὶν ἐν τῷ αὐτῷ, δῆλον  
 ὅτι ἐν τῷ ἐναντίῳ ἂν εἴη, ἐπειδὴ ἀνάγκη τὰ ἐναντία  
 ἐν τῷ αὐτῷ ἢ ἐν τοῖς ἐναντίοις γένεσιν εἶναι. καὶ  
 τὰς διαφορὰς δὲ τὰς ἐναντίας τῶν ἐναντίων ἀξιοῦ-  
 μεν κατηγορεῖσθαι, καθάπερ λευκοῦ καὶ μέλανος·  
 153 b τὸ μὲν γὰρ διακριτικὸν τὸ δὲ συγκριτικὸν ὅψεως.  
 ὥστ' εἰ τοῦ ἐναντίου αἱ ἐναντίαι κατηγοροῦνται,  
 τοῦ προκειμένου αἱ ἀποδοθεῖσαι κατηγοροῦντ' αὖν.

<sup>1</sup> Reading *μόνα* with Wallies for *μόνον*.

<sup>2</sup> Deleting *ὅτι* before *ὁ ταῦτα*.



B were the only attributes predicated of the thing in the category of essence, then the description containing A and B would necessarily be a definition; for nothing else can possibly be a definition, since nothing else is a predicate of the thing in the category of essence.

It is clear, then, that it is possible to reason about a definition. Of what materials definitions should be constructed has been determined more precisely elsewhere,<sup>a</sup> but the same commonplaces are useful for the inquiry now before us. You must look at the contraries and the other opposites, examining the descriptions both as wholes and in detail; for if the opposite description is a definition of the opposite term, the description given must necessarily be a definition of the term under consideration. Since, however, there are several possible conjunctions of the contraries, you must choose from among the contraries the one whose contrary definition is most plain. The descriptions, then, as a whole must be examined in the manner described, and in detail in the following manner. First of all, you must see that the genus assigned has been assigned correctly. For, if the contrary is placed in the contrary genus, and the term under consideration is not in the same genus, it is obvious that it would be in the contrary genus, since contraries must necessarily be in the same genus or in contrary genera. Also, we hold that the contrary differentiae should be predicated of contraries, as, for example, of black and white; for the one tends to penetrate, the one to compress, the vision. So, if contrary differentiae are predicated of the contrary term, the differentiae assigned would be predicated of the term under consideration. Since,

(b) Method of eliciting genus and differentia from a contrary and so constructing a definition from the definition of the contrary.

ὥστ' ἐπεὶ καὶ τὸ γένος καὶ αἱ διαφοραὶ ὀρθῶς  
 ἀποδέδονται, δηλὸν ὅτι ὁρισμὸς ἂν εἴη ὁ ἀπο-  
 5 δοθείς. ἢ οὐκ ἀναγκαῖον τῶν ἐναντίων τὰς ἐναν-  
 τίας διαφορὰς κατηγορεῖσθαι, ἂν μὴ ἐν τῷ αὐτῷ  
 γένει ἢ τὰ ἐναντία· ὦν δὲ τὰ γένη ἐναντία, οὐδὲν  
 κωλύει τὴν αὐτὴν διαφορὰν κατ' ἀμφοῖν λέγεσθαι,  
 οἷον κατὰ δικαιοσύνης καὶ ἀδικίας· τὸ μὲν γὰρ  
 ἀρετὴ τὸ δὲ κακία ψυχῆς, ὥστε τὸ ψυχῆς διαφορὰ  
 10 ἐν ἀμφοῖν λέγεται, ἐπειδὴ καὶ σώματός ἐστι ἀρε-  
 τή καὶ κακία. ἀλλ' οὖν τοῦτό γ' ἀληθές, ὅτι  
 τῶν ἐναντίων ἢ ἐναντίαι ἢ αἱ αὐταὶ διαφοραὶ  
 εἰσιν. εἰ οὖν τοῦ ἐναντίου ἢ ἐναντία κατηγορεῖται,  
 τούτου δὲ μή, δηλὸν ὅτι ἡ εἰρημένη τούτου ἂν  
 κατηγοροῖτο. καθόλου δ' εἰπεῖν, ἐπεὶ ὁ ὁρισμὸς  
 15 ἐστὶν ἐκ γένους καὶ διαφορῶν, ἂν ὁ τοῦ ἐναντίου  
 ὁρισμὸς φανερός ᾗ, καὶ ὁ τοῦ προκειμένου ὁρισμὸς  
 φανερός ᾔσται. ἐπεὶ γὰρ τὸ ἐναντίον ἐν τῷ αὐτῷ  
 γένει ἢ ἐν τῷ ἐναντίῳ, ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ αἱ διαφοραὶ  
 ἢ ἐναντίαι τῶν ἐναντίων ἢ αἱ αὐταὶ κατηγοροῦνται,  
 δηλὸν ὅτι τοῦ προκειμένου ἥτοι τὸ αὐτὸ γένος ἂν  
 20 κατηγοροῖτο ὅπερ καὶ τοῦ ἐναντίου, αἱ δὲ διαφοραὶ  
 ἐναντίαι, ἢ ἅπασαι ἢ τινές, αἱ δὲ λοιπαὶ αἱ αὐταί·  
 ἢ ἀνάπαλιν αἱ μὲν διαφοραὶ αἱ αὐταὶ τὰ δὲ γένη  
 ἐναντία· ἢ ἁμφῶ ἐναντία, καὶ τὰ γένη καὶ αἱ δια-  
 φοραί. ἁμφοτέρω γὰρ ταῦτα εἶναι οὐκ ἐνδέχεται·  
 εἰ δὲ μή, ὁ αὐτὸς ὁρισμὸς τῶν ἐναντίων ᾔσται.  
 25 "Ἐτι ἐκ τῶν πτώσεων καὶ τῶν συστοίχων·

therefore, both the genus and the differentiae have been correctly assigned, it is obvious that the description assigned would be a definition. But, possibly, it does not necessarily follow that the contrary differentiae are predicated of contraries, unless the contraries are in the same genus; but where the genera are contrary, there is no reason why the same differentia should not be predicated of both, for example, of justice and injustice, for the one is a virtue and the other a vice, of the soul; and so 'of the soul' is employed as a differentia in both cases, since there is a virtue and a vice of the body also. This, however, at any rate is true, that the differentiae of contraries are either contrary or the same. If, therefore, the contrary differentia is predicated of the contrary term and not of the term in question, it is obvious that the stated differentia would be predicated of the latter. To put the matter generally, since the definition is composed of genus and differentia, if the definition of the contrary is clear, the definition also of the term under consideration will be clear also. For, since the contrary is either in the same or in the contrary genus, and likewise too the differentiae predicated of contraries are either contrary or the same, obviously either (a) the same genus would be predicated of the term under consideration as of its contrary, whereas the differentiae are either all contrary or else some of them contrary and the rest the same, or, (b) conversely the differentiae are the same and the genera contrary, or (c) both the genera and the differentiae are contrary. For it is not possible that both should be the same; otherwise contraries will have the same definition.

Furthermore, you must judge from inflexions and (c) Employ-

153 b

ἀνάγκη γὰρ ἀκολουθεῖν τὰ γένη τοῖς γένεσι καὶ τοὺς ὅρους τοῖς ὅροις. οἷον εἰ ἡ λήθη ἐστὶν ἀποβολὴ ἐπιστήμης, καὶ τὸ ἐπιλανθάνεσθαι ἀποβάλλειν ἐπιστήμην ἔσται καὶ τὸ ἐπιλελῆσθαι ἀποβεβληκέναι ἐπιστήμην. ἐνὸς οὖν ὁποιοῦν τῶν εἰρη-  
 30 μένων ὁμολογηθέντος ἀνάγκη καὶ τὰ λοιπὰ ὁμολογεῖσθαι. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ εἰ ἡ φθορὰ διάλυσις οὐσίας, καὶ τὸ φθείρεσθαι διαλύεσθαι οὐσίαν καὶ τὸ φθαρτικῶς διαλυτικῶς, εἴ τε τὸ φθαρτικὸν διαλυτικὸν οὐσίας, καὶ ἡ φθορὰ διάλυσις οὐσίας. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων. ὥσθ' ἐνὸς ὁποιοῦν  
 35 ληφθέντος καὶ τὰ λοιπὰ πάντα ὁμολογεῖται.

Καὶ ἐκ τῶν ὁμοίως δ' ἐχόντων πρὸς ἄλληλα. εἰ γὰρ τὸ ὑγιεινὸν ποιητικὸν ὑγιείας, καὶ τὸ εὐεκτικὸν ποιητικὸν εὐεξίας ἔσται καὶ τὸ ὠφέλιμον  
 154 a ποιητικὸν ἀγαθοῦ. ὁμοίως γὰρ ἕκαστον τῶν εἰρημένων πρὸς τὸ οἰκεῖον τέλος ἔχει, ὥστ' εἰ ἐνὸς αὐτῶν ὁ ὁρισμός ἐστι τὸ ποιητικὸν εἶναι τοῦ τέλους, καὶ τῶν λοιπῶν ἐκάστου οὗτος ἂν εἴη ὁρισμός.

Ἔτι ἐκ τοῦ μᾶλλον καὶ τοῦ ὁμοίως, ὅσαχῶς  
 5 ἐνδέχεται κατασκευάσαι δύο πρὸς δύο συγκρίνοντα, οἷον εἰ μᾶλλον ὅδε τοῦδε ἢ ὅδε τοῦδε ὁρισμός, ὁ δὲ ἥττον ὁρισμός, καὶ ὁ μᾶλλον. καὶ εἰ ὁμοίως ὅδε τοῦδε καὶ ὅδε τοῦδε, εἰ ὁ ἕτερος τοῦ ἐτέρου,  
 662



co-ordinates ; for here genus must follow genus and definition follow definition. For example, if ' forgetfulness ' is ' a loss of knowledge,' ' to forget ' is ' to lose knowledge,' and ' to have forgotten ' is ' to have lost knowledge.' If, therefore, any one of these things is admitted, the rest also must necessarily also be admitted. Similarly, too, if ' destruction ' is ' a dissolution of essence,' then ' to be destroyed ' is ' to have one's essence dissolved,' and ' destructively ' means ' in such a way as to dissolve the essence ' ; and if ' destructive ' means ' tending to destroy the essence,' ' destruction ' is ' the dissolution of the essence.' So likewise with the other inflexions ; if any one of them is assumed, all the others also are admitted.

You must also judge from things which are related in the same way to one another. For if ' healthy ' means ' productive of health,' ' invigorating ' also will mean ' productive of vigour ' and ' beneficial ' will mean ' productive of good.' For each of the above is similarly related to its own particular end, so that, if the definition of one of them is that it is ' productive of ' its end, this would also be the definition of each of the others.

Furthermore, you must judge from the greater and the similar degrees, in all the various ways in which it is possible to be constructive by comparing two things with two other things. For example, if one thing is to a greater degree the definition of another than something else is of something else, and the latter is a definition, then so also is the former. Also, if one thing is a definition of another and something else a definition of something else in a similar degree, if the latter is a definition of

ment of inflexions and co-ordinates for the construction of a definition.

(d) Argument from things which stand in similar relation.

(e) Formation of a definition by the comparison of other definitions.

καὶ ὁ λοιπὸς τοῦ λοιποῦ. ἐνὸς δ' ὀρίσμοῦ πρὸς  
 δύο συγκρινομένου, ἢ δύο ὀρίσμων πρὸς ἓνα,  
 10 οὐδὲν χρήσιμος ἢ ἐκ τοῦ μᾶλλον ἐπίσκεψις· οὔτε  
 γὰρ ἓνα δυοῖν οὔτε δύο τοῦ αὐτοῦ ὅρους δυνατόν  
 ἐστὶν εἶναι.

IV. Εἰσι δὲ καὶ ἐπικαιρότατοι τῶν τόπων οἱ  
 τε νῦν εἰρημένοι καὶ οἱ ἐκ τῶν συστοίχων καὶ οἱ  
 ἐκ τῶν πτώσεων. διὸ καὶ δεῖ μάλιστα κατέχειν  
 15 καὶ προχείρους ἔχειν τούτους· χρησιμώτατοι γὰρ  
 πρὸς πλείστα. καὶ τῶν ἄλλων δὲ τοὺς μάλιστα  
 κοινούς· οὔτοι γὰρ ἐνεργότατοι τῶν λοιπῶν, οἷον  
 τό τ' ἐπιβλέπειν ἐπὶ τὰ<sup>1</sup> καθ' ἕκαστα, καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν  
 εἰδῶν σκοπεῖν εἰ ἐφαρμόττει ὁ λόγος, ἐπειδὴ  
 συνώνυμον τὸ εἶδος. ἔστι δὲ χρήσιμον τὸ τοιοῦτον  
 20 πρὸς τοὺς τιθεμένους ἰδέας εἶναι, καθάπερ πρότερον  
 εἴρηται. ἔτι εἰ μεταφέρων εἴρηκε τοῦνομα, ἢ  
 αὐτὸ αὐτοῦ κατηγορήκεν ὡς ἕτερον. καὶ εἴ τις  
 ἄλλος κοινὸς καὶ ἐνεργὸς τῶν τόπων ἐστί, τούτῳ  
 χρηστέον.

V. Ὅτι δὲ χαλεπώτερον κατασκευάζειν ἢ ἀνα-  
 σκευάζειν ὅρον, ἐκ τῶν μετὰ ταῦτα ῥηθησομένων  
 25 φανερόν. καὶ γὰρ ἰδεῖν αὐτὸν καὶ λαβεῖν παρὰ  
 τῶν ἐρωτωμένων τὰς τοιαύτας προτάσεις οὐκ  
 εὐπετές, οἷον ὅτι τῶν ἐν τῷ ἀποδοθέντι λόγῳ  
 τὸ μὲν γένος τὸ δὲ διαφορά, καὶ ὅτι ἐν τῷ τί ἐστί  
 τὸ γένος καὶ αἱ διαφοραὶ κατηγοροῦνται. ἀνευ  
 δὲ τούτων ἀδύνατον ὀρίσμοῦ γένεσθαι συλλογισμὸν·  
 30 εἰ γάρ τινα καὶ ἄλλα ἐν τῷ τί ἐστί τοῦ πράγματος

<sup>1</sup> τὸ in Bekker's text is a misprint for τὰ.

the latter, then the former is also a definition of the former. The examination on the basis of the greater degree is of no use when one definition is compared with two things or two definitions with one thing; for there cannot possibly be one definition of two things or two definitions of the same thing.

IV. The most convenient of the commonplaces are those just mentioned and those based on co-ordinates and inflexions. It is, therefore, particularly necessary to grasp these and have them ready for use; for they are most often useful. Of the rest you must employ those which are most widely applicable (for they are the most efficacious of the remainder), for example, the consideration of individual cases and the examination of the species to see whether the description fits; for the species is synonymous with its members. Such a procedure is useful against those who assume the existence of 'ideas,' as has been said before.<sup>a</sup> Further, you must see whether a term has been used metaphorically or has been predicated of itself as though it were something different. Also any other commonplace ought to be used if it is widely applicable and efficacious.

[Note on what are the most useful common-places.]

V. That it is more difficult to construct than to destroy a definition is obvious for reasons which are to be next set forth. For oneself to discern, and to secure from those who are being questioned, the sort of premisses which one requires is far from easy, for example, that the constituent parts of the description given are, firstly, genus and, secondly, differentia, and that the genus and differentiae are predicated in the category of essence. But without these premisses it is impossible to reason out a definition; for, if other things also are predicated of the thing

[Notes on the construction and destruction of definitions and their component parts. (a) Definitions are more easily destroyed than constructed.]

154 a

κατηγορεῖται, ἄδηλον πότερον ὁ ῥηθεὶς ἢ ἕτερος αὐτοῦ ὀρισμός ἐστιν, ἐπειδὴ ὀρισμός ἐστὶ λόγος ὁ τὸ τί ἦν εἶναι σημαίνων. δῆλον δὲ καὶ ἐκ τῶνδε. ῥᾶον γὰρ ἐν συμπεράνασθαι ἢ πολλά. ἀναιροῦντι μὲν οὖν ἀπόχρη πρὸς ἐν<sup>1</sup> διαλεγῆναι (ἐν γὰρ ὅποι-

35 ονοῦν ἀνασκευάσαντες ἀνηρηκότες ἐσόμεθα τὸν ὄρον), κατασκευάζοντι δὲ πάντα ἀνάγκη συμβιβάζειν ὅτι ὑπάρχει τὰ ἐν τῷ ὄρῳ. ἔτι κατασκευάζοντι μὲν καθόλου οἰστέον συλλογισμόν· δεῖ γὰρ

154 b κατὰ παντὸς οὗ τοῦνομα κατηγορεῖσθαι τὸν ὄρον, καὶ ἔτι πρὸς τούτοις ἀντιστρέφειν, εἰ μέλλει ἴδιος εἶναι ὁ ἀποδοθεὶς ὄρος. ἀνασκευάζοντα δ' οὐκέτι ἀνάγκη δεῖξαι τὸ καθόλου· ἀπόχρη γὰρ τὸ δεῖξαι  
5 ὅτι οὐκ ἀληθεύεται περὶ τινὸς τῶν ὑπὸ τοῦνομα ὁ λόγος. εἴ τε καὶ καθόλου δέοι ἀνασκευάσαι, οὐδ' ὥς τὸ ἀντιστρέφειν ἀναγκαῖον ἐπὶ τοῦ ἀνασκευάζειν· ἀπόχρη γὰρ ἀνασκευάζοντι καθόλου τὸ δεῖξαι ὅτι κατὰ τινὸς ὧν τοῦνομα κατηγορεῖται ὁ λόγος οὐ κατηγορεῖται. τὸ δ' ἀνάπαλιν οὐκ ἀναγκαῖον πρὸς τὸ δεῖξαι, ὅτι καθ' ὧν ὁ λόγος  
10 μὴ κατηγορεῖται τοῦνομα κατηγορεῖται. ἔτι εἰ καὶ παντὶ ὑπάρχει τῷ ὑπὸ τοῦνομα, μὴ μόνῳ δέ, ἀνηρημένος γίνεται ὁ ὀρισμός.

Ὅμοίως δὲ καὶ περὶ τὸ ἴδιον καὶ τὸ γένος ἔχει· ἐν ἀμφοτέροις γὰρ ἀνασκευάζειν ἢ κατασκευάζειν  
15 ῥᾶον. περὶ μὲν οὖν τοῦ ἰδίου φανερόν ἐκ τῶν

<sup>1</sup> Reading ἐν with C.



in the category of essence, it is obscure whether the description given or some other description is the definition of the thing ; for a definition is a description which signifies the essence of a thing. This is also clear from the following considerations. It is easier to come to one conclusion than to many ; when, therefore, one is destroying a definition, it is enough to argue against a single point (for, if we have destroyed any one point whatsoever, we shall have destroyed the definition), but for constructive purposes it is necessary to establish that everything in the definition is applicable. Further, for constructive purposes, reasoning of universal application must be adduced ; for the definition must be predicated of everything of which the term is predicated, and, besides this, it must be convertible, if the definition assigned is to be peculiar to the subject. On the other hand, for destructive purposes, it is no longer necessary to prove universality ; for it is enough to show that the description is untrue of some one thing which falls under the term. Also, if it were necessary to destroy the definition universally, even so there is no need for the proposition to be convertible in order to destroy it ; for it is enough, for its destruction universally, to show that the description is not predicated of any one of things of which the term is predicated ; and the converse of this is not necessary in order to show that the term is predicated of those things of which the description is not predicated. Furthermore, if it belongs to everything which falls under the term, but not to it alone, the definition is destroyed.

A similar thing happens also in respect of the property and the genus ; for in both cases to destroy is easier than to confirm. The case of the property is

(b) The same is true of property and genus.

εἰρημένων· ὥς γὰρ ἐπὶ τὸ πολὺ ἐν συμπλοκῇ τὸ  
 ἴδιον ἀποδίδεται, ὥστ' ἀνασκευάζειν μὲν ἔστιν  
 ἐν ἀνελόντα, κατασκευάζοντι δὲ ἀνάγκη πάντα  
 συλλογίζεσθαι. σχεδὸν δὲ καὶ τὰ λοιπὰ πάντα,  
 ὅσα πρὸς τὸν ὀρισμὸν, καὶ πρὸς τὸ ἴδιον ἀρμόσει  
 20 λέγεσθαι· παντί τε γὰρ δεῖ τῷ ὑπὸ τοῦνομα τὸν  
 κατασκευάζοντα δεικνύναι ὅτι ὑπάρχει, ἀνασκευά-  
 ζοντι δ' ἀπόχρη ἐνὶ δεῖξαι μὴ ὑπάρχον· εἴ τε καὶ  
 παντί ὑπάρχει, μὴ μόνῳ δέ, καὶ οὕτως ἀνεσκευα-  
 σμένον γίνεται, καθάπερ ἐπὶ τοῦ ὀρισμοῦ λέ-  
 γεται. περὶ δὲ τοῦ γένους, ὅτι κατασκευάζειν  
 25 μὲν ἀνάγκη μοναχῶς παντί δείξαντα ὑπάρχειν,  
 ἀνασκευάζοντι δὲ διχῶς· καὶ γὰρ εἰ μηδενὶ καὶ  
 εἰ τινὶ δέδεικται μὴ ὑπάρχον, ἀνήρηται τὸ ἐν ἀρχῇ.  
 ἔτι κατασκευάζοντι μὲν οὐκ ἀπόχρη ὅτι ὑπάρχει  
 δεῖξαι, ἀλλὰ καὶ διότι ὥς γένος ὑπάρχει δεικτέον·  
 ἀνασκευάζοντι δ' ἱκανὸν τὸ δεῖξαι μὴ ὑπάρχον ἢ τινὶ  
 30 ἢ παντί. ἔοικε δ', ὥσπερ καὶ ἐν τοῖς ἄλλοις τὸ  
 διαφθεῖραι τοῦ ποιῆσαι ῥᾶον, οὕτω καὶ ἐπὶ τούτων  
 τὸ ἀνασκευάσαι τοῦ κατασκευάσαι.

Ἐπὶ δὲ τοῦ συμβεβηκότος τὸ μὲν καθόλου ῥᾶον  
 ἀνασκευάζειν ἢ κατασκευάζειν· κατασκευάζοντι μὲν  
 35 γὰρ δεικτέον ὅτι παντί, ἀνασκευάζοντι δ' ἀπόχρη  
 ἐνὶ δεῖξαι μὴ ὑπάρχον. τὸ δ' ἐπὶ μέρους ἀνάπαλιν  
 ῥᾶον κατασκευάσαι ἢ ἀνασκευάσαι· κατασκευά-

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clear from what has been said ; for the property is usually assigned in a complex expression, so that it is possible to destroy it by demolishing one element in it, whereas in confirming it is necessary to establish all the elements by reasoning. Also, almost all the other things which can be said of the definition can be fittingly said of the property also ; for he who is confirming a property must show that it belongs to everything which falls under the term, whereas it is enough for destructive purposes to show that it fails to belong to one of them. Also, even if it belongs to every one of them but not exclusively, in these circumstances too the property is demolished, as was observed<sup>a</sup> about definition. As regards the genus, it is clear that there is only one course for you to follow when confirming it, namely, to show that it belongs in every case, whereas for demolishing it there are two possible courses ; for the original assumption is destroyed both if it has been shown never to belong and also if it has been shown not to belong in a particular case. Further, in confirming a genus, it is not enough to show that it belongs, but you must also show that it belongs as a genus, whereas, in demolishing it, it suffices to show that it fails to belong either in a particular case or in every case. Indeed it looks as if just as in everything else to destroy is easier than to create, so also here to demolish is easier than to confirm.

In the case of the accident it is easier to demolish than confirm the universal ; for, to confirm it, you must show that it belongs in every case, but to demolish it, it is enough to show that it does not belong in a particular instance. The particular, on the contrary, is easier to confirm than to demolish ;

(c) Accident is more easily destroyed if it is universal, more easily confirmed if it is particular.

155 a ζονται μὲν γὰρ ἀπόχρη δείξαι τινὲ ὑπάρχον, ἀνα-  
σκευάζοντι δὲ δεικτέον ὅτι οὐδενὶ ὑπάρχει.

Φανερόν δὲ καὶ διότι πάντων ῥᾶστον ὅρον ἀνα-  
σκευάσαι· πλεῖστα γὰρ ἐν αὐτῷ τὰ δεδομένα  
5 πολλῶν εἰρημένων, ἐκ δὲ τῶν πλειόνων θάττον  
γίνεται συλλογισμός. εἰκὸς γὰρ ἐν τοῖς πολλοῖς  
μᾶλλον ἢ ἐν τοῖς ὀλίγοις ἀμάρτημα γίνεσθαι. ἔτι  
πρὸς μὲν ὅρον ἐνδέχεται καὶ διὰ τῶν ἄλλων ἐπι-  
χειρεῖν· εἴτε γὰρ μὴ ἴδιος ὁ λόγος, εἴτε μὴ γένος  
τὸ ἀποδοθέν, εἴτε μὴ ὑπάρχει τι τῶν ἐν τῷ λόγῳ,  
10 ἀνήρημένος γίνεται ὁ ὀρισμός· πρὸς δὲ τᾶλλα οὔτε  
τὰ ἐκ τῶν ὅρων οὔτε τᾶλλα ἐνδέχεται πάντ' ἐπι-  
χειρεῖν· μόνα γὰρ τὰ πρὸς τὸ συμβεβηκὸς κοινὰ  
πάντων τῶν εἰρημένων ἐστίν. ὑπάρχειν μὲν γὰρ  
δεῖ ἕκαστον τῶν εἰρημένων· εἰ δὲ μὴ ὡς ἴδιον  
ὑπάρχει τὸ γένος, οὐδέπω ἀνήρηται τὸ γένος.  
15 ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ τὸ ἴδιον οὐκ ἀναγκαῖον ὡς γένος,  
οὐδὲ τὸ συμβεβηκὸς ὡς γένος ἢ ἴδιον, ἀλλ' ὑπάρ-  
χειν μόνον. ὥστ' οὐ δυνατόν ἐκ τῶν ἐτέρων πρὸς  
τὰ ἕτερα ἐπιχειρεῖν ἀλλ' ἢ ἐπὶ τοῦ ὀρισμοῦ. δῆλον  
οὖν ὅτι ῥᾶστον πάντων ὅρον ἀναιρεῖν, κατασκευά-  
ζειν δὲ χαλεπώτατον· ἐκεῖνά τε γὰρ δεῖ πάντα  
20 συλλογίσασθαι (καὶ γὰρ ὅτι ὑπάρχει τὰ εἰρημένα  
καὶ ὅτι γένος τὸ ἀποδοθέν καὶ ὅτι ἴδιος ὁ λόγος),  
καὶ ἔτι παρὰ ταῦτα, ὅτι δηλοῖ τὸ τί ἦν εἶναι ὁ  
λόγος, καὶ τοῦτο καλῶς δεῖ πεποιηκέναι.

<sup>a</sup> i.e. genus, property and accident.



## TOPICA, VII. v

for, to confirm it, it is enough to show that it belongs in one instance, but, to demolish it, you must show that it never belongs.

It is clear also that a definition is the easiest of all things to destroy ; for, since it contains many assertions, the opportunities which it offers are very numerous, and the more abundant the material, the more quickly can reasoning set to work ; for it is more likely that error should occur when the material is copious than when it is scanty. Moreover, it is possible also to attack a definition by means of the other attributes <sup>a</sup> ; for if the description is not peculiar, or if that which is assigned is not genus, or if something in the description does not belong, the definition is demolished. On the other hand, against the others it is impossible to argue with all the material derived from definitions nor can the rest of the others be used ; for only those which relate to accident are common to all the said attributes. For each of the said attributes must belong to the subject, but, if the genus does not belong as a property, the genus is not yet destroyed. Similarly, too, the property does not necessarily belong as a genus, nor the accident as a genus or a property, but they may merely belong. It is, therefore, impossible to use one set against the other except where definition is concerned. It is obvious, then, that a definition is the easiest of all things to destroy but the most difficult to confirm ; for one has to establish all the other points by reasoning (namely, that the attributes asserted belong, and that what has been assigned is a true genus, and that the description is peculiar), and, besides this, that the description shows the essence of the thing ; and this must be done properly.

(d) Definition is of all things the most easy to destroy, the most difficult to confirm.

Τῶν δ' ἄλλων τὸ ἴδιον μάλιστα τοιούτων· ἀν-  
 αρεῖν μὲν γὰρ ῥᾶον διὰ τὸ ἐκ πολλῶν ὥς ἐπὶ  
 25 τὸ πολὺ, κατασκευάζειν δὲ χαλεπώτατον, ὅτι τε  
 πολλὰ δεῖ συμβιβάζειν, καὶ πρὸς τούτῳ ὅτι μόνῳ  
 ὑπάρχει καὶ ἀντικατηγορεῖται τοῦ πράγματος.

Ῥᾶστον δὲ πάντων κατασκευάζειν τὸ συμβεβηκός·  
 ἐν μὲν γὰρ τοῖς ἄλλοις οὐ μόνον ὑπάρχον, ἀλλὰ  
 30 καὶ ὅτι οὕτως ὑπάρχει, δεικτέον· ἐπὶ δὲ τοῦ συμ-  
 βεβηκότος, ὅτι ὑπάρχει μόνον, ἱκανὸν δεῖξαι.  
 ἀνασκευάζειν δὲ χαλεπώτατον τὸ συμβεβηκός, ὅτι  
 ἐλάχιστα ἐν αὐτῷ δέδοται· οὐ γὰρ προσσημαίνει  
 ἐν τῷ συμβεβηκότι πῶς ὑπάρχει, ὥστ' ἐπὶ μὲν  
 τῶν ἄλλων διχῶς ἔστιν ἀνελεῖν, ἢ δεῖξαιτα ὅτι  
 35 οὐχ ὑπάρχει ἢ ὅτι οὐχ οὕτως ὑπάρχει, ἐπὶ δὲ τοῦ  
 συμβεβηκότος οὐκ ἔστιν ἀνελεῖν ἀλλ' ἢ δεῖξαιτα  
 ὅτι οὐχ ὑπάρχει.

Οἱ μὲν οὖν τόποι δι' ὧν εὐπορήσομεν πρὸς ἑκα-  
 στα τῶν προβλημάτων ἐπιχειρεῖν, σχεδὸν ἱκανῶς  
 ἐξηριθμήθηται.

## TOPICA, VII. v

Of the rest, the property most merely resembles the definition; for it is easier to destroy, because it is usually composed of a number of terms, and most difficult to confirm, because a number of points must be brought together, and, besides this, because it belongs to the subject alone and is predicated convertibly with it.

(e) Property is the next easiest to destroy.

The accident is the easiest thing of all to confirm; for in the other cases it must be shown not only that the attribute belongs but also that it belongs in a particular way, whereas in the case of the accident it is enough to show only that it belongs. On the other hand, the accident is most difficult to destroy, because it offers the fewest opportunities; for in stating an accident one does not add any indication of the manner in which it belongs, so that in the other cases it is possible to destroy the statement in two ways, by showing either that it does not belong or that it does not belong in a particular way, but in the case of the accident it is impossible to destroy it except by showing that it does not belong.

(f) Accident is the most difficult to destroy and the easiest to confirm.]

The commonplaces which will provide us with abundant means of attacking each kind of problem have now been more or less adequately enumerated.

155 b 3 I. Μετὰ δὲ ταῦτα περὶ τάξεως, καὶ πῶς δεῖ  
 ἐρωτᾶν, λεκτέον. δεῖ δὲ πρῶτον μὲν ἐρωτηματίζειν  
 5 μέλλοντα τὸν τόπον εὑρεῖν ὅθεν ἐπιχειρητέον,  
 δεύτερον δὲ ἐρωτηματίσαι καὶ τάξαι καθ' ἕκαστα  
 πρὸς ἑαυτόν, τὸ δὲ λοιπὸν καὶ τρίτον εἰπεῖν ταῦτα  
 ἡδὴ πρὸς ἕτερον. μέχρι μὲν οὖν τοῦ εὑρεῖν τὸν  
 τόπον ὁμοίως τοῦ φιλοσόφου καὶ τοῦ διαλεκτικοῦ  
 ἢ σκέψις, τὸ δ' ἡδὴ ταῦτα τάττειν καὶ ἐρωτη-  
 10 ματίζειν ἴδιον τοῦ διαλεκτικοῦ· πρὸς ἕτερον γὰρ  
 πᾶν τὸ τοιοῦτον, τῷ δὲ φιλοσόφῳ καὶ ζητοῦντι  
 καθ' ἑαυτόν οὐδὲν μέλει, ἐὰν ἀληθῇ μὲν ἦ καὶ  
 γνώριμα δι' ὧν ὁ συλλογισμός, μὴ θῇ δ' αὐτὰ ὁ  
 ἀποκρινόμενος διὰ τὸ σύνεγγυς εἶναι τοῦ ἐξ ἀρχῆς  
 καὶ προορᾶν τὸ συμβησόμενον· ἀλλ' ἴσως κἄν  
 15 σπουδάσειεν ὅτι μάλιστα γνώριμα καὶ σύνεγγυς  
 εἶναι τὰ ἀξιώματα· ἐκ τούτων γὰρ οἱ ἐπιστη-  
 μονικοὶ συλλογισμοί.

Τοὺς μὲν οὖν τόπους ὅθεν δεῖ λαμβάνειν, εἴρηται  
 πρότερον· περὶ τάξεως δὲ καὶ τοῦ ἐρωτηματίσαι  
 λεκτέον διελόμενον τὰς προτάσεις, ὅσαι ληπτέαι



## BOOK VIII

I. NEXT we must speak about arrangement and the way to ask questions. He who is about to ask questions must, first of all, choose the ground from which he must make his attack ; secondly, he must formulate his questions and arrange them separately in his own mind ; thirdly and lastly, he must go on to address them to another person. As far as the choice of ground goes, the philosopher and the dialectician are making a similar inquiry, but the subsequent arrangement of material and the framing of questions are the peculiar province of the dialectician ; for such a proceeding always involves a relation with another party. On the other hand, the philosopher and individual seeker does not care if, though the premisses by means of which his reasoning proceeds are true and familiar, the answerer refuses to admit them because they are too close to the point of departure and he foresees what will result from his admission ; indeed the philosopher may perhaps even be eager that his axioms should be as familiar and as near to his starting-point as possible ; for it is of this material that scientific reasonings are constructed.

The sources from which the commonplaces should be derived have already been stated.<sup>a</sup> We must now deal with arrangement and the framing of questions, after having first distinguished the premisses which

THE  
PRACTICE  
OF DIA-  
LECTICS  
(BOOK  
VIII):  
Introduc-  
tion.

[Compari-  
son between  
the philo-  
sopher and  
the dia-  
lectician.]

HOW TO  
FORMULATE  
QUESTIONS  
(chapters  
1-3):

155 b

20 παρὰ τὰς ἀναγκαίας. ἀναγκαῖαι δὲ λέγονται δι' ὧν ὁ συλλογισμὸς γίνεται. αἱ δὲ παρὰ ταύτας λαμβανόμεναι τέτταρές εἰσιν· ἥ γὰρ ἐπαγωγῆς χάριν τοῦ δοθῆναι τὸ καθόλου, ἥ εἰς ὄγκον τοῦ λόγου, ἥ πρὸς κρύψιν τοῦ συμπεράσματος, ἥ πρὸς τὸ σαφέστερον εἶναι τὸν λόγον. παρὰ δὲ ταύτας  
 25 οὐδεμίαν ληπτέον πρότασιν, ἀλλὰ διὰ τούτων αὔξειν καὶ ἐρωτηματίζειν πειρατέον. εἰσὶ δ' αἱ πρὸς κρύψιν ἀγῶνος χάριν· ἀλλ' ἐπειδὴ πᾶσα ἡ τοιαύτη πραγματεία πρὸς ἕτερόν ἐστιν, ἀνάγκη καὶ ταύταις χρῆσθαι.

Τὰς μὲν οὖν ἀναγκαίας, δι' ὧν ὁ συλλογισμὸς,  
 30 οὐκ εὐθὺς αὐτὰς<sup>1</sup> προτατέον, ἀλλ' ἀποστατέον ὅτι ἀπωτάτω,<sup>2</sup> οἷον μὴ τῶν ἐναντίων ἀξιοῦντα τὴν αὐτὴν ἐπιστήμην, ἂν τοῦτο βούληται λαβεῖν, ἀλλὰ τῶν ἀντικειμένων· τεθέντος γὰρ τούτου, καὶ ὅτι τῶν ἐναντίων ἡ αὐτὴ συλλογιεῖται, ἐπειδὴ ἀντικείμενα τὰ ἐναντία. ἂν δὲ μὴ τιθῇ, δι' ἐπαγωγῆς  
 35 ληπτέον, προτείνοντα ἐπὶ τῶν κατὰ μέρος ἐναντίων. ἥ γὰρ διὰ συλλογισμοῦ ἢ δι' ἐπαγωγῆς τὰς ἀναγκαίας ληπτέον, ἢ τὰς μὲν ἐπαγωγῇ τὰς δὲ συλλογισμῶ, ὅσαι δὲ λίαν προφανεῖς εἰσὶ, καὶ αὐτὰς προτείνοντα· ἀδηλότερόν τε γὰρ αἰεὶ ἐν τῇ ἀπο-  
 156 a στάσει καὶ τῇ ἐπαγωγῇ τὸ συμβησόμενον, καὶ ἅμα

<sup>1</sup> Inserting αὐτὰς with AB.

have to be obtained, other than those which are necessary. What are called necessary premises are those by means of which reasoning proceeds. Those which are obtained other than these fall into four classes ; they are used either (1) for the sake of induction, so that the universal may be granted, or (2) to add weight to the argument, or (3) to conceal the conclusion, or (4) to give greater clearness to the argument. Besides these no other premiss needs to be provided, but by means of them we must try to amplify and frame our questions. Those which are used for concealment are for contentious purposes ; but, since this kind of proceeding is always directed against another party, these also must be employed.

The necessary premisses, then, by means of which reasoning proceeds, ought not to be advanced immediately in their original form, but you must keep as far away from them as you can ; for example, if you wish to establish that the knowledge of contraries is the same, you should make the claim not for contraries but for opposites ; for, if this is granted, you will then argue that the knowledge of contraries is also the same, since contraries are opposites. If, on the other hand, the answerer refuses to admit this, you should then establish it by induction, making a proposition dealing with particular contraries. For you must secure the necessary premisses either by reasoning or by induction, or else partly by induction and partly by reasoning, though you can advance in their original form any premisses which are clear beyond all doubt ; for the conclusion which will follow is always less obvious when it is still far off and being reached by induction, and at the same time,

(a) Necessary and other premisses.

How to employ necessary premisses.

<sup>2</sup> Reading ἀπωτάτω for ἀνωτάτω.

τὸ αὐτὰς τὰς χρησίμους προτείνειν καὶ μὴ δυνά-  
 μενον ἐκείνως λαβεῖν ἔτοιμον. τὰς δὲ παρὰ  
 ταύτας εἰρημένας ληπτέον μὲν τούτων χάριν,  
 5 ἐκάστη δ' ὧδε χρηστέον, ἐπάγοντα μὲν ἀπὸ τῶν  
 καθ' ἕκαστον ἐπὶ τὸ καθόλου καὶ τῶν γνωρίμων  
 ἐπὶ τὰ ἄγνωστα· γνώριμα δὲ μᾶλλον τὰ κατὰ τὴν  
 αἴσθησιν, ἢ ἀπλῶς ἢ τοῖς πολλοῖς. κρύπτοντα  
 δὲ προσυλλογίζεσθαι δι' ὧν ὁ συλλογισμὸς τοῦ  
 ἐξ ἀρχῆς μέλλει γίνεσθαι, καὶ ταῦτα ὡς πλείστα.  
 10 εἷη δ' ἂν τοῦτο, εἴ τις μὴ μόνον τὰς ἀναγκαίας  
 ἀλλὰ καὶ τῶν πρὸς ταύτας χρησίμων τινὰ συλ-  
 λογίζοιτο. ἔτι τὰ συμπεράσματα μὴ λέγειν,  
 ἀλλ' ὕστερον ἀθρόα συλλογίζεσθαι· οὕτω γὰρ ἂν  
 πορρωτάτῳ ἀποστήσειε τῆς ἐξ ἀρχῆς θέσεως.  
 καθόλου δ' εἰπεῖν, οὕτω δεῖ ἐρωτᾶν τὸν κρυπτικῶς  
 πυνθανόμενον, ὥστ' ἡρωτημένου τοῦ παντὸς λόγου  
 15 καὶ εἰπόντος τὸ συμπέρασμα ζητεῖσθαι τὸ διὰ  
 τί. τοῦτο δ' ἔσται μάλιστα διὰ τοῦ λεχθέντος  
 ἔμπροσθεν τρόπου· μόνου γὰρ τοῦ ἐσχάτου ῥηθέν-  
 τος συμπεράσματος ἄδηλον πῶς συμβαίνει, διὰ  
 τὸ μὴ προορᾶν τὸν ἀποκρινόμενον ἐκ τίνων  
 συμβαίνει, μὴ διαρθρωθέντων τῶν πρότερον συλ-  
 20 λογισμῶν. ἥκιστα δ' ἂν διαρθροῖτο ὁ συλλογι-  
 σμὸς τοῦ συμπεράσματος μὴ τὰ τούτου λήμματα  
 ἡμῶν τιθέντων, ἀλλ' ἐκεῖνα ὑφ' ὧν ὁ συλλογισμὸς  
 γίνεται.



if you cannot establish the requisite premisses in the above manner, it is still feasible to advance them in their original form. The premisses, other than these, already mentioned, must be established for the sake of the latter, and must each be used as follows, namely, by induction from the particulars to the universal and from the known to the unknown; and the objects of sense-perception are better known absolutely or at any rate to most people. For the concealment of your conclusion, you should establish by previous reasonings the premisses through which the reasoning of your original proposition is to proceed, and they should be as numerous as possible. This would best be achieved if one were to establish by reasoning not only the necessary premisses but also some of those which are requisite for obtaining them. Further, you should not state the conclusions, but establish them by reasoning all at the same time at a later stage; for them you would keep the answerer as far as possible from the original proposition. To put the matter generally, he who wishes to conceal his purpose while eliciting answers should frame his questions in such a way that, when the whole argument has been the subject of questions and he has stated the conclusion, it should still be asked "Why is it so?" This will be best achieved by following the above method; for, if only the final conclusion is stated, it is not clear how it comes about, because the answerer cannot foresee the basis on which it rests, because the preliminary reasonings have not formed an organic whole, and the reasoning-out of the conclusion would least form an organic whole, if we set forth not the admitted premisses but only those by which the reasoning proceeds.

*How to  
employ  
premisses  
other than  
necessary  
(1) For  
inductions.*

*(2) For  
concealing  
one's con-  
clusion:*

*a. Postpone  
the state-  
ment of  
your con-  
clusion.*

Χρήσιμον δὲ καὶ τὸ μὴ συνεχῇ τὰ ἀξιώματα  
 λαμβάνειν ἐξ ὧν οἱ συλλογισμοί, ἀλλ' ἐναλλάξ τὸ  
 25 πρὸς ἕτερον καὶ ἕτερον συμπέρασμα· τιθεμένων  
 γὰρ τῶν οἰκείων παρ' ἄλληλα μᾶλλον τὸ συμ-  
 βησόμενον ἐξ αὐτῶν προφανές.

Χρὴ δὲ καὶ ὀρισμῷ λαμβάνειν, ἐφ' ὧν ἐνδέχεται,  
 τὴν καθόλου πρότασιν, μὴ ἐπ' αὐτῶν ἀλλ' ἐπὶ  
 τῶν συστοίχων· παραλογίζονται γὰρ ἑαυτούς, ὅταν  
 30 ἐπὶ συστοίχου ληφθῇ ὁ ὀρισμός, ὥς οὐ τὸ καθόλου  
 συγχωροῦντες, οἷον εἰ δέοι λαβεῖν ὅτι ὁ ὀργι-  
 ζόμενος ὀρέγεται τιμωρίας διὰ φαινομένην ὀλι-  
 γωρίαν, ληφθεῖη δ' ἡ ὀργὴ ὀρεξις εἶναι τιμωρίας  
 διὰ φαινομένην ὀλιγωρίαν· δῆλον γὰρ ὅτι τούτου  
 ληφθέντος ἔχοιμεν ἂν καθόλου ὁ προαιρούμεθα.  
 35 τοῖς δ' ἐπ' αὐτῶν προτείνουνσι πολλάκις ἀνανεύειν  
 συμβαίνει τὸν ἀποκρινόμενον διὰ τὸ μᾶλλον ἔχειν  
 ἐπ' αὐτοῦ τὴν ἔνστασιν, οἷον ὅτι ὁ ὀργιζόμενος  
 οὐκ ὀρέγεται τιμωρίας· τοῖς γὰρ γονεῦσιν ὀργι-  
 ζόμεθα μὲν, οὐκ ὀρεγόμεθα δὲ τιμωρίας. ἴσως  
 μὲν οὖν οὐκ ἀληθὴς ἡ ἔνστασις· παρ' ἐνίων γὰρ  
 156 b ἱκανὴ τιμωρία τὸ λυπῆσαι μόνον καὶ ποιῆσαι  
 μεταμέλεσθαι· οὐ μὴν ἀλλ' ἔχει τι πιθανὸν πρὸς  
 τὸ μὴ δοκεῖν ἀλόγως ἀρνεῖσθαι τὸ προτεινόμενον.  
 ἐπὶ δὲ τοῦ τῆς ὀργῆς ὀρισμοῦ οὐχ ὁμοίως ῥάδιόν  
 ἐστὶν εὐρεῖν ἔνστασιν.

It is also a useful practice not to establish the admitted propositions on which the reasonings are based in their natural order but to alternate one which leads to one conclusion with another which leads to another conclusion ; for, if those which are closely related are set side by side with one another, the conclusion which will result from them is more clearly foreseen.

*b. Vary the order in which you establish the various arguments.*

You should also, whenever possible, establish the universal premiss in the form of a definition relating not to the actual terms in question but to co-ordinates of them ; for people let themselves be deceived when a definition is established dealing with a co-ordinate, imagining that they are not making the admission universally. This would happen, for example, if it were necessary to establish that the angry man is desirous of revenge for a fancied slight, and it were to be established that anger is a desire for revenge for a fancied slight ; for, obviously, if this were established, we should have the universal admission which we require. On the other hand, it often happens, when people make propositions dealing with the actual term, that the answerer refuses his assent, because he objects more readily when the actual term is used, saying, for example, that the angry man is not desirous of revenge, for though we become angry with our parents, yet we are not desirous of revenge. Possibly, the objection is not a true one ; for with some people merely to cause pain and induce repentance is sufficient revenge. However, it tends to create an impression that the denial of the proposition is not unreasonable. But as regards the definition of anger it is not so easy to find an objection as in some other cases.

*c. Establish a universal premiss by a definition relating to a co-ordinate of the actual term.*

"Ἐτι τὸ προτείνειν μὴ ὥς δι' αὐτὸ ἄλλ' ἄλλον  
 5 χάριν προτείνοντα· εὐλαβοῦνται γὰρ τὰ πρὸς τὴν  
 θέσιν χρήσιμα. ἀπλῶς δ' εἰπεῖν, ὅτι μάλιστα  
 ποιεῖν ἄδηλον πότερον τὸ προτεινόμενον ἢ τὸ  
 ἀντικείμενον βούλεται λαβεῖν· ἀδήλου γὰρ ὄντος  
 τοῦ πρὸς τὸν λόγον χρησίμου μᾶλλον τὸ δοκοῦν  
 αὐτοῖς τιθέασιν.

- 10 "Ἐτι διὰ τῆς ὁμοιότητος πυνθάνεσθαι· καὶ γὰρ  
 πιθανὸν καὶ λανθάνει μᾶλλον τὸ καθόλου. οἶον  
 ὅτι ὥσπερ ἐπιστήμη καὶ ἄγνοια τῶν ἐναντίων ἢ  
 αὐτή, οὕτω καὶ αἰσθησις τῶν ἐναντίων ἢ αὐτή, ἢ  
 ἀνάπαλιν, ἐπειδὴ αἰσθησις ἢ αὐτή, καὶ ἐπιστήμη.  
 τοῦτο δ' ἐστὶν ὅμοιον ἐπαγωγῇ, οὐ μὲν ταυτόν  
 15 γε· ἐκεῖ μὲν γὰρ ἀπὸ τῶν καθ' ἕκαστα τὸ καθόλου  
 λαμβάνεται, ἐπὶ δὲ τῶν ὁμοίων οὐκ ἔστι τὸ  
 λαμβανόμενον τὸ καθόλου, ὅφ' ὃ πάντα τὰ ὁμοιά  
 ἐστίν.

- Δεῖ δὲ καὶ αὐτόν ποτε αὐτῷ ἔνστασιν φέρειν·  
 ἀνυπόπτως γὰρ ἔχουσιν οἱ ἀποκρινόμενοι πρὸς  
 20 τοὺς δοκοῦντας δικαίως ἐπιχειρεῖν. χρήσιμον δὲ  
 καὶ τὸ ἐπιλέγειν ὅτι σύνηθες καὶ λεγόμενον τὸ  
 τοιοῦτον· ὁκνοῦσι γὰρ κινεῖν τὸ εἰωθὸς ἔνστασιν  
 μὴ ἔχοντες. ἅμα δὲ καὶ τῷ χρῆσθαι καὶ αὐτοὶ τοῖς  
 τοιούτοις φυλάττονται κινεῖν αὐτά. ἔτι τὸ μὴ  
 σπουδάζειν, κἂν ὅλως χρήσιμον ᾖ· πρὸς γὰρ τοὺς  
 25 σπουδάζοντας μᾶλλον ἀντιτείνουσιν. καὶ τὸ ὥς  
 ἐν παραβολῇ προτείνειν· τὸ γὰρ δι' ἄλλο προτεινό-  
 682



## TOPICA, VIII. 1

Furthermore, you should state your proposition as if you were doing so not for its own sake but with some other object ; for people are on the watch against what is useful for the thesis. In a word, the questioner should leave it obscure whether he wishes to establish what he is really proposing or its opposite ; for if what is useful to the argument is obscure, people are more likely to state what they really think.

*d. Conceal the object of the desired concession.*

Further, you should carry on your questioning by means of similarity ; for this is a plausible method, and the universal is less obvious. For example, you should argue that, as knowledge and ignorance of contraries is the same thing, so is the perception of contraries the same thing, or, conversely, since the perception of them is the same, so also is the knowledge. This method resembles induction but is not the same thing ; for, in induction, the universal is established from the particulars, whereas, in dealing with similars, what is established is not the universal under which all the similars fall.

*e. Secure the admissions by means of likeness.*

You should, also, yourself sometimes bring an objection against yourself ; for answerers are unsuspicious when dealing with those who appear to them to be arguing fairly. It is useful also to add : " Such and such a view is that generally held and expressed " ; for people shrink from trying to upset customary opinions unless they have some objection to bring, and they are wary of trying to upset them at the same time as they are themselves also making use of such things. Further, you should not be too zealous, even though it is entirely to your advantage to be so ; for people offer more opposition to the zealous. Further, you should put forward your proposition as if it were an illustration ; for people

*f. Various other devices : e.g. self-objection, indifference and irrelevant amplification.*

μενον καὶ μὴ δι' αὐτὸ χρήσιμον τιθέασι μᾶλλον.  
 ἔτι μὴ αὐτὸ προτείνειν ὁ δεῖ ληφθῆναι, ἀλλ' ὧ  
 τοῦτο ἔπεται ἐξ ἀνάγκης· μᾶλλον τε γὰρ συγ-  
 χωροῦσι διὰ τὸ μὴ ὁμοίως ἐκ τούτου φανερόν  
 30 εἶναι τὸ συμβησόμενον, καὶ ληφθέντος τούτου  
 εἴληπται κακεῖνο· καὶ τὸ ἐπ' ἐσχάτῳ ἐρωτᾶν ὁ  
 μάλιστα βούλεται λαβεῖν· μάλιστα γὰρ τὰ πρῶτα  
 ἀνανεύουσι διὰ τὸ τοὺς πλείστους τῶν ἐρωτῶντων  
 πρῶτα λέγειν περὶ ἃ μάλιστα σπουδάζουσιν· πρὸς  
 ἐνίους δὲ πρῶτα τὰ τοιαῦτα προτείνειν· οἱ γὰρ  
 35 δύσκολοι τὰ πρῶτα μάλιστα συγχωροῦσιν, ἂν μὴ  
 παντελῶς φανερόν ᾗ τὸ συμβησόμενον, ἐπὶ τελευτῆς  
 δὲ δυσκολαίνουσιν· ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ὅσοι οἴονται  
 δριμύεις εἶναι ἐν τῷ ἀποκρίνεσθαι· θέντες γὰρ τὰ  
 πλεῖστα ἐπὶ τέλους τερθρεύονται ὥς οὐ συμ-  
 βαίνοντος ἐκ τῶν κειμένων· τιθέασι δὲ προχείρως,  
 157 a πιστεύοντες τῇ ἕξει καὶ ὑπολαμβάνοντες οὐδὲν  
 πείσεσθαι· ἔτι τὸ μηκύνειν καὶ παρεμβάλλειν  
 τὰ μηδὲν χρήσιμα πρὸς τὸν λόγον, καθάπερ οἱ  
 ψευδογραφοῦντες· πολλῶν γὰρ ὄντων ἄδηλον ἐν  
 ὁποίῳ τὸ ψεῦδος· διὸ καὶ λανθάνουσιν ἐνίστε οἱ  
 5 ἐρωτῶντες ἐν παραβύστῳ προστιθέντες ἃ καθ'  
 αὐτὰ προτεινόμενα οὐκ ἂν τεθείη.

Εἰς μὲν οὖν κρύψιν τοῖς εἰρημένοισι χρηστέον, εἰς

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more readily admit what is proposed for some other purpose and is not useful for its own sake. Further, you should not put forward the actual proposition which has to be established, but something from which it necessarily follows; for people are more likely to concede the latter because what will follow from it is less obvious, and when it has been established, the other has also been established. Also you should keep for the last question the point which you most wish to establish; for people are most apt to deny the first questions asked because most questioners put first the points on which they set most store. But in dealing with some people you should put forward such propositions first; for bad-tempered people most readily concede the first points, if what is going to result is not absolutely obvious, and indulge their bad temper at the end. Something of the same kind occurs with those who think that they are clever at answering; for, after admitting most of the points, they finally indulge in quibbling, saying that the conclusion does not result from what has been admitted, yet they make admissions readily, trusting to their habitual practice and conceiving that they will suffer no defeat. Further, it is a good thing to prolong the argument and to introduce into it points which are of no practical good, just as those do who construct false geometrical figures; for, when the material is abundant, it is less obvious where the fallacy lies. It is for this reason also that those who are asking questions escape detection by introducing in a hole-and-corner fashion things which, if proposed separately, would not be admitted.

For concealing your purpose, then, the above mentioned methods should be used; for ornament,

(3) *For ornament.*

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δὲ κόσμον ἐπαγωγῇ καὶ διαιρέσει τῶν συγγενῶν.  
 ἡ μὲν οὖν ἐπαγωγὴ ὅποιον τί ἐστι δῆλον, τὸ δὲ  
 διαιρεῖσθαι τοιοῦτον οἶον ὅτι ἐπιστήμη ἐπιστήμης  
 10 βελτίων ἢ τῷ ἀκριβεστέρα εἶναι ἢ τῷ βελτιόνων,  
 καὶ ὅτι τῶν ἐπιστημῶν αἱ μὲν θεωρητικαὶ αἱ δὲ  
 πρακτικαὶ αἱ δὲ ποιητικαί. τῶν γὰρ τοιούτων  
 ἕκαστον συνεπικοσμεῖ μὲν τὸν λόγον, οὐκ ἀναγκαῖα  
 δὲ ῥηθῆναι πρὸς τὸ συμπέρασμα.

Εἰς δὲ σαφήνειαν παραδείγματα καὶ παραβολὰς  
 15 οἰστέον, παραδείγματα δὲ οἰκεῖα καὶ ἐξ ὧν ἴσμεν,  
 οἷα Ὅμηρος, μὴ οἷα Χοιρίλος· οὕτω γὰρ ἂν σα-  
 φέστερον εἶη τὸ προτεινόμενον.

II. Χρηστέον δ' ἐν τῷ διαλέγεσθαι τῷ μὲν  
 συλλογισμῷ πρὸς τοὺς διαλεκτικούς μᾶλλον ἢ  
 20 πρὸς τοὺς πολλούς, τῇ δ' ἐπαγωγῇ τὸναντίον  
 πρὸς τοὺς πολλούς μᾶλλον· εἴρηται δ' ὑπὲρ τούτων  
 καὶ πρότερον. ἔστι δὲ ἐπ' ἐνίων μὲν ἐπάγοντα  
 δυνατόν ἐρωτῆσαι τὸ καθόλου, ἐπ' ἐνίων δ' οὐ  
 ῥάδιον διὰ τὸ μὴ κεῖσθαι ταῖς ὁμοιότησιν ὄνομα  
 πάσαις κοινόν· ἀλλ' ὅταν δέῃ τὸ καθόλου λαβεῖν,  
 οὕτως ἐπὶ πάντων τῶν τοιούτων φασίν· τοῦτο  
 25 δὲ διορίσαι τῶν χαλεπωτάτων, ὅποια τῶν προ-  
 φερομένων τοιαῦτα καὶ ποῖα οὐ. καὶ παρὰ τοῦτο  
 πολλάκις ἀλλήλους παρακροῦνται κατὰ τοὺς  
 λόγους, οἱ μὲν φάσκοντες ὅμοια εἶναι τὰ μὴ ὄντα  
 ὅμοια, οἱ δ' ἀμφισβητοῦντες τὰ ὅμοια μὴ εἶναι  
 ὅμοια. διὸ πειρατέον ἐπὶ πάντων τῶν τοιούτων  
 30 ὀνοματοποιεῖν αὐτόν, ὅπως μήτε τῷ ἀποκρινομένῳ

<sup>a</sup> An epic poet of Iasos in Asia Minor who attached himself to Alexander the Great (Horace, *A.P.* 357, *Epp.* ii. 1. 233).

<sup>b</sup> 105 a 16-19.



## TOPICA, VIII. I-II

you should employ induction and the distinction of things of a closely similar kind. What induction is, is obvious ; distinction is attained by statements such as that one science is better than another, either because it is more exact or because it is concerned with better objects, and that some sciences are theoretical, others practical and others creative. Every distinction of this kind helps to adorn your argument, though its introduction is not necessary to the conclusion.

For clearness, examples and illustrations should be adduced, the examples being to the point and drawn from things which are familiar to us, of the kind which Homer uses and not of the kind that Choerilus <sup>a</sup> employs ; for thus the proposition would be rendered clearer. (4) *For clearness.*

II. In dialectical argument, the syllogism should be used against dialecticians rather than against the multitude ; on the contrary, induction should rather be used against the multitude ; this matter has been dealt with before.<sup>b</sup> When you are using induction, it is possible sometimes to put the question in a general form, but sometimes it is not easy to do so, because there is no common term laid down which applies to all the similarities ; but, when it is necessary to establish the universal, people use the expression "So in all cases of this kind." But it is one of the most difficult of tasks to define which of the terms proposed are ' of this kind ' and which are not. Because of this, people often mislead one another in their discussions, some alleging that things are similar which are not similar, others arguing that similar things are not similar. Therefore, you must try to invent a term which will apply to all things of a certain kind, in order that it may be impossible (b) *Inductions.*

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ἐξῇ ἀμφισβητεῖν ὥς οὐχ ὁμοίως τὸ ἐπιφερόμενον λέγεται, μήτε τῷ ἐρωτῶντι συκοφαντεῖν ὥς ὁμοίως λεγομένου, ἐπειδὴ πολλὰ τῶν οὐχ ὁμοίως λεγομένων ὁμοίως φαίνεται λέγεσθαι.

Ὅταν δ' ἐπάγοντος ἐπὶ πολλῶν μὴ διδῶ τὸ  
 35 καθόλου, τότε δίκαιον ἀπαιτεῖν ἔνστασιν. μὴ  
 εἰπόντα δ' αὐτὸν ἐπὶ τίνων οὕτως, οὐ δίκαιον  
 ἀπαιτεῖν ἐπὶ τίνων οὐχ οὕτως· δεῖ γὰρ ἐπάγοντα  
 πρότερον οὕτω τὴν ἔνστασιν ἀπαιτεῖν. ἀξιωτέον  
 τε τὰς ἐνστάσεις μὴ ἐπ' αὐτοῦ τοῦ προτεινομένου  
 φέρειν, ἐὰν μὴ ἔν μόνον ἢ τὸ τοιοῦτον, καθάπερ  
 157 b ἢ δυὰς τῶν ἀρτίων μόνος ἀριθμὸς πρῶτος· δεῖ  
 γὰρ τὸν ἐνιστάμενον ἐφ' ἑτέρου τὴν ἔνστασιν  
 φέρειν, ἢ λέγειν ὅτι τοῦτο μόνον τοιοῦτο. πρὸς  
 δὲ τοὺς ἐνισταμένους τῷ καθόλου, μὴ ἐν αὐτῷ δὲ  
 τὴν ἔνστασιν φέροντας ἀλλ' ἐν τῷ ὁμωνύμῳ, οἷον  
 5 ὅτι ἔχοι ἂν τις τὸ μὴ αὐτοῦ χρῶμα ἢ πόδα ἢ  
 χεῖρα (ἔχοι γὰρ ἂν ὁ ζωγράφος χρῶμα καὶ ὁ  
 μάγειρος πόδα τὸν μὴ αὐτοῦ) διελόμενον οὖν ἐπὶ  
 τῶν τοιούτων ἐρωτητέον· λανθανούσης γὰρ τῆς  
 ὁμωνυμίας εὖ δόξει ἐνστήναι τῇ προτάσει. ἐὰν  
 δὲ μὴ ἐν τῷ ὁμωνύμῳ ἀλλ' ἐν αὐτῷ ἐνιστάμενος  
 10 κωλύῃ τὴν ἐρώτησιν, ἀφαιροῦντα δεῖ ἐν ᾧ ἢ  
 ἔνστασις προτείνειν τὸ λοιπὸν καθόλου ποιῶντα,  
 ἕως ἂν λάβῃς<sup>1</sup> τὸ χρήσιμον. οἷον ἐπὶ τῆς λήθης

<sup>1</sup> Reading λάβῃς with C.

either for the answerer to argue that what is being proposed is not used similarly, or for the questioner falsely to represent it as used similarly when it is not so, since many things seem to be used similarly when they are not really so.

When one makes an induction on the basis of a number of particulars and the answerer refuses to admit the universal, one is justified in demanding his objection. If, on the other hand, one has not oneself stated the cases in which something is so, one is not justified in demanding from him the cases in which it is not so; one ought to make the induction first and then demand the objection. Also, one ought to demand that objections should not be brought against the actual thing proposed unless it is the only one thing of its kind, as, for example, two is the only even number which is a prime number; for the objector ought either to make his objection with regard to another instance or else assert that the instance in question is the only one of its kind. When people object to a universal proposition, bringing their objection not against the thing itself but against something homonymous with it—saying, for example, that a man could not have a colour or a foot or a hand which was not his own (for a painter could have a colour and a cook could have a foot which was not his own)—you should make a distinction in such cases and then ask your question; for, if the homonym is not exposed, the objection to the proposition will appear valid. If, however, he stops your questioning by objecting not to a homonym but to the thing itself, you should omit the point to which the objection is made and bring forward the remainder, putting it in the form of a universal, until you have got what you require. For

(c) *Objections.*

καὶ τοῦ ἐπιλελῆσθαι· οὐ γὰρ συγχωροῦσι τὸν  
ἀποβεβληκότα ἐπιστήμην ἐπιλελῆσθαι, διότι μετα-  
πεσόντος τοῦ πράγματος ἀποβέβληκε μὲν τὴν  
ἐπιστήμην, ἐπιλέλθεται δ' οὐ. ῥητέον οὖν ἀφε-  
15 λόντα ἐν ᾧ ἡ ἔνστασις τὸ λοιπόν, οἷον εἰ διαμέ-  
νοντος τοῦ πράγματος ἀποβέβληκε τὴν ἐπιστήμην,  
διότι ἐπιλέλθεται. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ πρὸς τοὺς  
ἐνισταμένους διότι τῷ μείζονι ἀγαθῷ μείζον  
ἀντίκειται κακόν· προφέρουσι γὰρ ὅτι τῇ ὑγείᾳ,  
ἐλάττονι ὄντι ἀγαθῷ τῆς εὐεξίας, μείζον κακὸν  
20 ἀντίκειται· τὴν γὰρ νόσον μείζον κακὸν εἶναι τῆς  
καχεξίας· ἀφαιρετέον οὖν καὶ ἐπὶ τούτου ἐν ᾧ  
ἡ ἔνστασις· ἀφαιρεθέντος γὰρ μᾶλλον ἂν θείῃ,  
οἷον ὅτι τῷ μείζονι ἀγαθῷ μείζον κακὸν ἀντίκει-  
ται, ἐὰν μὴ συνεπιφέρῃ θάτερον θάτερον, καθάπερ  
ἡ εὐεξία τὴν ὑγίειαν. οὐ μόνον δ' ἐνισταμένου  
25 τοῦτο ποιητέον, ἀλλὰ καὶ ἄνευ ἐνστάσεως ἀρνήται  
διὰ τὸ προορᾶν τι τῶν τοιούτων· ἀφαιρεθέντος  
γὰρ ἐν ᾧ ἡ ἔνστασις, ἀναγκασθήσεται τιθέναι διὰ  
τὸ μὴ προορᾶν ἐν τῷ λοιπῷ ἐπὶ τίνος οὐχ οὕτως·  
ἐὰν δὲ μὴ τιθῇ, ἀπαιτούμενος ἔνστασιν οὐ μὴ  
ἔχῃ ἀποδοῦναι· εἰσὶ δὲ τοιαῦται τῶν προτάσεων  
30 αἱ ἐπὶ τὶ μὲν ψευδεῖς ἐπὶ τὶ δ' ἀληθεῖς· ἐπὶ τούτων  
γὰρ ἔστιν ἀφελόντα τὸ λοιπὸν ἀληθὲς καταλιπεῖν.



example, in the case of forgetfulness and having forgotten, people do not concede that the man who has lost the knowledge of something has forgotten it, because, if the thing changes, he has lost knowledge of it but has not forgotten it. You must, therefore, omit the point to which the objection is made and assert the remainder, saying, for example, that if he has lost the knowledge of the thing while it still remains, he has then forgotten it. You must deal similarly with those who object to the statement that a greater evil is the opposite of the greater good ; for they advance the argument that health, which is a lesser good than sound bodily condition, has a greater evil as its opposite, since disease is a greater evil than unsound bodily condition. You must, therefore, omit in this instance also the point to which the objection is made ; for, if this is omitted, your opponent would more readily make an admission such as that “ the greater evil is the opposite of the greater good, unless one good entails the other also,” as sound bodily condition entails health. This course should be followed, not only when he offers an objection, but also if he denies your proposition without making an objection, because he foresees something of this kind ; for, if that to which the objection is made is omitted, he will be forced to admit your proposition because he cannot foresee any case in which it is not true in the future course of the argument. If he does not admit it, he will be quite unable to assign an objection when asked to do so. Propositions of this kind are those which are partly false and partly true. In dealing with these it is possible to omit something and leave the remainder true. If you make a proposition based on

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ἐὰν δ' ἐπὶ πολλῶν προτείνοντος μὴ φέρῃ ἔνστασιν, ἀξιοτέον τιθέναι· διαλεκτικὴ γάρ ἐστι πρότασις πρὸς ἣν οὕτως ἐπὶ πολλῶν ἔχουσιν μὴ ἔστιν ἔνστασις.

Ὅταν δ' ἐνδέχῃται τὸ αὐτὸ ἄνευ τε τοῦ ἀδυνάτου  
 35 καὶ διὰ τοῦ ἀδυνάτου συλλογίσασθαι, ἀποδεικνύντι  
 μὲν καὶ μὴ διαλεγομένῳ οὐδὲν διαφέρει οὕτως ἢ  
 ἐκείνῳ συλλογίσασθαι, διαλεγομένῳ δὲ πρὸς  
 ἄλλον οὐ χρηστέον τῷ διὰ τοῦ ἀδυνάτου συλλο-  
 γισμῷ. ἄνευ μὲν γὰρ τοῦ ἀδυνάτου συλλογισα-  
 μένῳ οὐκ ἔστιν ἀμφισβητεῖν· ὅταν δὲ τὸ ἀδύνατον  
 158 a συλλογίσῃται, ἂν μὴ λίαν ἢ περιφανὲς ψεῦδος ὦν,  
 οὐκ ἀδύνατόν φασιν εἶναι, ὥστ' οὐ γίνεται τοῖς  
 ἐρωτῶσιν ὃ βούλονται.

Δεῖ δὲ προτείνειν ὅσα ἐπὶ πολλῶν μὲν οὕτως  
 ἔχει, ἔνστασις δὲ ἢ ὅλως μὴ ἔστιν ἢ μὴ ἐπιπολῆς  
 5 τὸ συνιδεῖν· μὴ δυνάμενοι γὰρ συνορᾶν ἐφ' ὧν οὐχ  
 οὕτως, ὥς ἀληθὲς ὦν τιθέασιν.

Οὐ δεῖ δὲ τὸ συμπέρασμα ἐρώτημα ποιεῖν· εἰ  
 δὲ μὴ, ἀνανεύσαντος οὐ δοκεῖ γεγονέναι συλλο-  
 γισμός· πολλάκις γὰρ καὶ μὴ ἐρωτῶντος ἄλλ'  
 10 ὥς συμβαῖνον ἐπιφέροντος ἀρνοῦνται, καὶ τοῦτο  
 ποιοῦντες οὐ δοκοῦσιν ἐλέγχεσθαι τοῖς μὴ συνο-  
 ρῶσιν ὅτι συμβαίνει ἐκ τῶν τεθέντων. ὅταν οὖν  
 μηδὲ φήσας συμβαίνειν ἐρωτήσῃ, ὃ δ' ἀρνηθῇ,  
 παντελῶς οὐ δοκεῖ γεγονέναι συλλογισμός.

a number of instances and he offers no objection, you must claim that he admits it; for a dialectical proposition is one which thus rests on a number of instances and against which there is no objection.

When it is possible to establish the same point either without or by means of the impossible, if one is demonstrating and not arguing dialectically, it does not matter whether one reasons by the former or the latter method; but if one is arguing dialectically with another person, reasoning by means of the impossible must not be employed. For if one has reasoned without the impossible, no dispute can arise; but when one establishes the impossible by reasoning, unless the fallacy is too obvious, people declare that there is no impossibility, so that the questioners do not achieve their object. (d) The argument per impossible.

One ought to advance all the propositions which are true in a number of instances and to which there is no objection at all, or at any rate none to be seen on the surface; for if men can see no instances in which the proposition does not hold good, they admit it as true.

One ought not to put the conclusion in the form of a question; otherwise one's opponent shakes his head and the reasoning appears to have been unsuccessful. For often, even if one does not put it in the form of a question but advances it as a consequence, people deny it, and by so doing avoid appearing to be refuted in the eyes of those who fail to see that the conclusion follows from the admissions which have been made. Whenever, therefore, one puts the conclusion in the form of a question, without even saying that it follows as a consequence, and the other party denies it, the reasoning has the appearance of having failed utterly. (e) Various recommendations on the putting of questions.

Οὐ δοκεῖ δὲ πᾶν τὸ καθόλου διαλεκτικὴ πρό-  
 15 τασις εἶναι οἷον τί ἐστὶν ἄνθρωπος, ἣ ποσαχῶς  
 λέγεται τὰγαθόν; ἔστι γὰρ πρότασις διαλεκτικὴ  
 πρὸς ἣν ἔστιν ἀποκρίνασθαι ναί ἢ οὐ· πρὸς δὲ  
 τὰς εἰρημένας οὐκ ἔστιν. διὸ οὐ διαλεκτικά ἐστι  
 τὰ τοιαῦτα τῶν ἐρωτημάτων, ἂν μὴ αὐτὸς διορί-  
 σας ἢ διελόμενος εἴπῃ, οἷον ἄρά γε τὰγαθὸν οὕτως  
 20 ἢ οὕτως λέγεται; πρὸς γὰρ τὰ τοιαῦτα ῥαδίᾳ ἢ  
 ἀπόκρισις ἢ καταφήσαντι ἢ ἀποφήσαντι. διὸ πει-  
 ρατέον οὕτω προτείνειν τὰς τοιαύτας τῶν προτά-  
 σεων. ἅμα δὲ καὶ δίκαιον ἴσως παρ' ἐκείνου  
 ζητεῖν ποσαχῶς λέγεται τὰγαθόν, ὅταν αὐτοῦ διαι-  
 ρουμένου καὶ προτείνοντος μηδαμῶς συγχωρῇ.

25 "Οστις δ' ἓνα λόγον πολὺν χρόνον ἐρωτᾷ, κακῶς  
 πυνθάνεται. εἰ μὲν γὰρ ἀποκρινομένου τοῦ ἐρω-  
 τωμένου τὸ ἐρωτώμενον, δῆλον ὅτι πολλὰ ἐρωτή-  
 ματα ἐρωτᾷ ἢ πολλάκις ταῦτά, ὥστε ἢ ἀδολεσχεῖ  
 ἢ οὐκ ἔχει συλλογισμόν· ἐξ ὀλίγων γὰρ πᾶς συλ-  
 λογισμός· εἰ δὲ μὴ ἀποκρινομένου, διὰ τί<sup>1</sup> οὐκ  
 30 ἐπιτιμᾷ ἢ ἀφίσταται;

III. "Εστι δ' ἐπιχειρεῖν τε χαλεπὸν καὶ ὑπέχειν  
 ῥαδίον τὰς αὐτὰς ὑποθέσεις. ἔστι δὲ τοιαῦτα τὰ  
 τε φύσει πρῶτα καὶ τὰ ἔσχατα. τὰ μὲν γὰρ  
 πρῶτα ὅρου δεῖται, τὰ δ' ἔσχατα διὰ πολλῶν  
 35 περαίνεται βουλομένῳ τὸ συνεχὲς λαμβάνειν ἀπὸ

<sup>1</sup> Reading διὰ τί for ὅτι.



It is generally agreed that not every universal can form a dialectical proposition, for example "What is man?" or "In what various senses can 'the good' be used?" For a dialectical proposition is one to which it is possible to answer 'yes' or 'no,' whereas to the above questions this is impossible. Therefore such questions are not dialectical unless the questioner himself makes divisions or distinctions before he asks them, saying, for example, "Is 'the good' used in this or in that sense?" To such questions the answer can easily be given by affirmation or denial. So you must try to advance such propositions in this form. At the same time it is also perhaps justifiable to inquire from the answerer what are the various senses in which 'the good' is used, when you have yourself distinguished and formulated them, and he absolutely refuses to agree.

Anyone who goes on asking one question for a long time is a bad interrogator. For, if the person questioned keeps on answering his question, obviously he asks a number of questions or asks the same thing time after time, so that either he is babbling or else he has no reasoned argument to offer; for reasoning is always based on a few premisses only. On the other hand, if he goes on asking questions because the other party does not answer, why does he not reprove him or else stop asking questions?

III. The same hypotheses may be both difficult to attack and easy to defend. Both things which are by nature primary and things which are by nature ultimate are of this kind. For things which are primary require definition and things which are ultimate are reached by many stages if one wishes to establish a continuous train of proof from primary

[Notes on various degrees of difficulty in dialectic arguments: (a) Things which are primary and which are ultimate

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τῶν πρώτων, ἢ σοφισματώδη φαίνεται τὰ ἐπιχειρήματα· ἀδύνατον γὰρ ἀποδείξαι τι μὴ ἀρξάμενον ἀπὸ τῶν οἰκείων ἀρχῶν καὶ συνείραντα μέχρι τῶν ἐσχάτων. ὀρίζεσθαι μὲν οὖν οὗτ' ἀξιοῦσιν οἱ ἀποκρινόμενοι, οὗτ' ἂν ὁ ἐρωτῶν ὀρίζεται προσέχουσιν· μὴ γενομένου δὲ φανεροῦ τί

158 b ποτ' ἐστὶ τὸ προκείμενον, οὐ ράδιον ἐπιχειρεῖν. μάλιστα δὲ τὸ τοιοῦτον περὶ τὰς ἀρχὰς συμβαίνει· τὰ μὲν γὰρ ἄλλα διὰ τούτων δείκνυται, ταῦτα δ' οὐκ ἐνδέχεται δι' ἐτέρων, ἀλλ' ἀναγκαῖον ὀρισμῶ τῶν τοιούτων ἕκαστον γνωρίζειν.

5 "Ἐστὶ δὲ δυσεπιχειρήτα καὶ τὰ λίαν ἐγγὺς τῆς ἀρχῆς· οὐ γὰρ ἐνδέχεται πολλοὺς πρὸς αὐτὰ λόγους πορίσασθαι, ὀλίγων ὄντων τῶν ἀνὰ μέσον αὐτοῦ τε καὶ τῆς ἀρχῆς, δι' ὧν ἀνάγκη δείκνυσθαι τὰ μετὰ ταῦτα. τῶν δὲ ὄρων δυσεπιχειρητότατοι πάντων εἰσὶν ὅσοι κέχρηνται τοιούτοις ὀνόμασιν,

10 α πρῶτον μὲν ἄδηλά ἐστιν εἴτε ἀπλῶς εἴτε πολλαχῶς λέγεται, πρὸς δὲ τούτοις μηδὲ γνώριμα πότερον κυρίως ἢ κατὰ μεταφορὰν ὑπὸ τοῦ ὀρισμένου λέγεται. διὰ μὲν γὰρ τὸ ἀσαφὴ εἶναι οὐκ ἔχει ἐπιχειρήματα, διὰ δὲ τὸ ἀγνοεῖσθαι εἰ παρὰ τὸ κατὰ μεταφορὰν λέγεσθαι τοιαῦτ' ἐστίν, οὐκ

15 ἔχει ἐπιτίμῃσιν.

Ὅλως δὲ πᾶν πρόβλημα, ὅταν ἢ δυσεπιχειρήτον, ἢ ὁρου δεῖσθαι ὑποληπτέον, ἢ τῶν πολλαχῶς ἢ τῶν κατὰ μεταφορὰν εἶναι λεγομένων, ἢ οὐ πόρρω

principles, or else the arguments have the appearance of being sophistical ; for it is impossible to demonstrate anything without starting from the appropriate first principles and keeping up a connected argument until ultimate principles are reached. Now those who are being questioned do not want to give definitions nor do they take any notice if the questioner gives them ; and yet it is difficult to argue if what is proposed is not made clear. This kind of thing is most likely to happen in the matter of first principles ; for, whereas it is through them that everything else is made clear, they cannot be made clear through anything else, but everything of that kind must be made known by definition.

are difficult to overthrow but easy to establish.

Things which lie very close to a first principle are also difficult to attack ; for it is not possible to supply many arguments against them, since the stages between them and the first principle, through which it is necessary to prove what is to follow, are few. Of definitions the most difficult to attack are those which employ terms about which, firstly, it is not clear whether they are used in one sense only or in several senses, and, besides this, it is not known whether they are used in their original sense or metaphorically by the framer of the definition. For, because of their obscurity, they do not offer points of attack, and, because one does not know whether they are obscure from being used metaphorically, they do not offer matter for criticism.

(b) Inferences which lie very near a first principle are difficult to attack.

To speak generally, any problem, when it proves difficult to attack, may be supposed either to require definition, or to be one of those which bear several meanings or are couched in metaphorical language, or else to be not far removed from first principles ;

(c) Various difficulties which hinder the confutation of an opponent.

τῶν ἀρχῶν, ἥ διὰ τὸ μὴ φανερόν εἶναι πρῶτον  
 20 ἡμῖν τοῦτ' αὐτό, κατὰ τίνα ποτὲ τῶν εἰρημένων  
 τρόπον ἐστὶν ὃ τὴν ἀπορίαν παρέχεται· φανεροῦ  
 γὰρ ὄντος τοῦ τρόπου δηλόν ὅτι ἡ ὀρίζεσθαι ἂν  
 δέοι ἢ διαιρεῖσθαι ἢ τὰς ἀνὰ μέσον προτάσεις  
 πορίζεσθαι· διὰ τούτων γὰρ δείκνυται τὰ ἔσχατα.

Πολλαῖς τε τῶν θέσεων μὴ καλῶς ἀποδιδόμενου  
 25 τοῦ ὀρισμοῦ οὐ ῥάδιον διαλέγεσθαι καὶ ἐπιχειρεῖν,  
 οἷον πότερον ἐν ἐνὶ ἐναντίον ἢ πλείω· ὀρισθέντων  
 δὲ τῶν ἐναντίων κατὰ τρόπον ῥάδιον συμβιβάσαι  
 πότερον ἐνδέχεται πλείω τῷ αὐτῷ εἶναι ἐναντία  
 ἢ οὐ. τὸν αὐτὸν δὲ τρόπον καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων  
 τῶν ὀρισμοῦ δεομένων. ἔοικε δὲ καὶ ἐν τοῖς  
 30 μαθήμασιν ἔνια δι' ὀρισμοῦ ἔλλειψιν οὐ ῥαδίως  
 γράφεσθαι, οἷον καὶ ὅτι ἡ παρὰ τὴν πλευρὰν  
 τέμνουσα τὸ ἐπίπεδον ὁμοίως διαιρεῖ τὴν τε γραμ-  
 μὴν καὶ τὸ χωρίον. τοῦ δὲ ὀρισμοῦ ῥηθέντος  
 εὐθέως φανερόν τὸ λεγόμενον· τὴν γὰρ αὐτὴν  
 ἀνταναίρεσιν ἔχει τὰ χωρία καὶ αἱ γραμμαί· ἐστι  
 35 δ' ὀρισμὸς τοῦ αὐτοῦ λόγου οὗτος. ἀπλῶς δὲ τὰ  
 πρῶτα τῶν στοιχείων τιθεμένων μὲν τῶν ὀρισμῶν,  
 οἷον τί γραμμὴ καὶ τί κύκλος, ῥᾶστα δεῖξαι, πλὴν  
 οὐ πολλά γε πρὸς ἕκαστον ἐστι τούτων ἐπιχειρεῖν  
 διὰ τὸ μὴ πολλὰ τὰ ἀνὰ μέσον εἶναι· ἂν δὲ μὴ  
 τιθῶνται οἱ τῶν ἀρχῶν ὀρισμοί, χαλεπόν, τάχα δ'  
 698



or it may be because at first this point is not clear to us, namely, in which of the above-mentioned ways the cause of our difficulty arises ; for, when the manner in which it arises is plain, it is obvious that it would be necessary either to give a definition, or to make a distinction, or to supply the intervening premisses ; for it is by these means that the ultimate conclusions are shown.

There are many theses which are not easily discussed and dealt with unless the definition is correctly assigned, for example, the question whether one thing has one contrary or many. If a proper definition has been given of 'contraries,' it is easy to make people see whether the same thing can have more than one contrary or not. The other terms which need definition can be dealt with in the same way. It seems likely that in mathematics also the construction of geometrical figures is sometimes rendered difficult through lack of definition, for example, in the proof that the line cutting the superficies parallel to the side of a parallelogram divides both the line and the area 'similarly.'<sup>a</sup> If the definition of 'similarly' is stated, the meaning immediately becomes clear ; for the areas and lines undergo the same corresponding diminution, and this is the definition of 'in the same ratio.' To speak generally, it is very easy to make clear the most primary of the elementary principles, such as the meaning of a line or a circle, if their definitions are laid down, except that it is not possible to advance numerous arguments about any one of them because the intervening stages are not many. If, however, the definitions of the first principles are not laid down, it is difficult and perhaps

(d) Difficulties from a badly enunciated definition.

<sup>a</sup> This is interpreted in l. 35 to mean 'in the same ratio.'

159<sup>a</sup> ὅλως ἀδύνατον. ὁμοίως δὲ τούτοις καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν  
κατὰ τοὺς λόγους ἔχει.

Οὐκ οὖν δεῖ λανθάνειν, ὅταν δυσεπιχείρητος ᾖ  
ἡ θέσις, ὅτι πέπονθέ τι τῶν εἰρημένων. ὅταν δ'  
5 ἡ πρὸς τὸ ἀξίωμα καὶ τὴν πρότασιν μείζον ἔργον  
διαλεγῆται ἢ τὴν θέσιν, διαπορήσειεν ἂν τις πό-  
τερον θετέον τὰ τοιαῦτα ἢ οὐ. εἰ γὰρ μὴ θήσῃ  
ἀλλ' ἀξιώσει καὶ πρὸς τοῦτο διαλέγεσθαι, μείζον  
προστάξει τοῦ ἐν ἀρχῇ κειμένου. εἰ δὲ θήσῃ,  
πιστεύσει ἐξ ἡττον πιστῶν. εἰ μὲν οὖν δεῖ μὴ  
10 χαλεπώτερον τὸ πρόβλημα ποιεῖν, θετέον, εἰ δὲ  
διὰ γνωριμωτέρων συλλογίζεσθαι, οὐ θετέον. ἢ  
τῷ μὲν μανθάνοντι οὐ θετέον, ἂν μὴ γνωριμώτερον  
ᾖ, τῷ δὲ γυμναζομένῳ θετέον, ἂν ἀληθὲς μόνον  
φαίνεται. ὥστε φανερόν ὅτι οὐχ ὁμοίως ἐρωτῶντί  
τε καὶ διδάσκοντι ἀξιωτέον τιθέναι.

15 IV. Πῶς μὲν οὖν ἐρωτηματίζειν καὶ τάττειν  
δεῖ, σχεδὸν ἱκανὰ τὰ εἰρημένα. περὶ δ' ἀποκρίσεως  
πρῶτον μὲν διοριστέον τί ἐστὶν ἔργον τοῦ καλῶς  
ἀποκρινομένου, καθάπερ τοῦ καλῶς ἐρωτῶντος.  
ἔστι δὲ τοῦ μὲν ἐρωτῶντος τὸ οὕτως ἐπαγαγεῖν  
τὸν λόγον ὥστε ποιῆσαι τὸν ἀποκρινόμενον τὰ  
20 ἀδοξότατα λέγειν τῶν διὰ τὴν θέσιν ἀναγκαίων,  
τοῦ δ' ἀποκρινομένου τὸ μὴ δι' αὐτὸν φαίνεσθαι  
συμβαίνειν τὸ ἀδύνατον ἢ τὸ παράδοxon, ἀλλὰ διὰ

<sup>a</sup> 158 b 16-21.

wholly impossible. There is a close resemblance between dialectical and geometrical processes.

We must then carefully note that, when a thesis is hard to deal with, it is because one of the above-mentioned circumstances <sup>a</sup> has arisen in connexion with it. When, however, it is a harder task to discuss the assumed principle which forms the premiss than the thesis, one might well doubt whether such assumption should be made or not. For if your opponent will not admit the assumption and is going to demand that you shall discuss it as well, he will be prescribing a greater task than was originally proposed, whereas, if he is going to admit the assumption, he will be founding his belief on a less credible basis. If, therefore, one ought not to increase the difficulty of the problem, the admission ought to be made ; but, if one ought to reason through premisses which are more certain, it should not be made, or, to put the matter differently, one who is seeking knowledge ought not to make the admission unless it is more certain than the conclusion, but he who is only practising discussion ought to make the admission if it merely appears to be true. It is clear, then, that a mere questioner and a man who is imparting knowledge have not the same right to claim an admission.

IV. The formulation and arrangement of questions have now been more or less adequately treated. As regards answering, the function of the good answerer must first be defined, as also that of the good questioner. The function of the questioner is so to direct the discussion as to make the answerer give the most paradoxical replies that necessarily result because of the thesis. The function of the answerer is to make it seem that the impossible or paradoxical is not his

(e) Should assumptions be made which are more difficult than the thesis itself ?]

HOW TO ANSWER QUESTIONS. The rôles of questioner and answerer.

159 a

τὴν θέσιν· ἑτέρα γὰρ ἴσως ἀμαρτία τὸ θέσθαι  
πρῶτον ὃ μὴ δεῖ καὶ τὸ θέμενον μὴ φυλάξαι κατὰ  
τρόπον.

- 25 V. Ἐπεὶ δ' ἐστὶν ἀδιόριστα τοῖς γυμνασίας καὶ  
πείρας ἔνεκα τοὺς λόγους ποιουμένοις· (οὐ γὰρ  
οἱ αὐτοὶ σκοποὶ τοῖς διδάσκουσιν ἢ μανθάνουσι  
καὶ τοῖς ἀγωνιζομένοις, οὐδὲ τούτοις τε καὶ τοῖς  
διατρίβουσι μετ' ἀλλήλων σκέψεως χάριν. τῷ  
μὲν γὰρ μανθάνοντι θετέον αἰετὰ δοκοῦντα· καὶ  
30 γὰρ οὐδ' ἐπιχειρεῖ ψεῦδος οὐδεὶς διδάσκειν· τῶν  
δ' ἀγωνιζομένων τὸν μὲν ἐρωτῶντα φαίνεσθαι τι  
δεῖ ποιεῖν πάντως, τὸν δ' ἀποκρινόμενον μηδὲν  
φαίνεσθαι πάσχειν· ἐν δὲ ταῖς διαλεκτικαῖς συνόδοις  
τοῖς μὴ ἀγῶνος χάριν ἀλλὰ πείρας καὶ σκέψεως  
τοὺς λόγους ποιουμένοις οὐ διήρθρωταί πω τίνος  
35 δεῖ στοχάζεσθαι τὸν ἀποκρινόμενον καὶ ὁποῖα  
διδόναι καὶ ποῖα μὴ πρὸς τὸ καλῶς ἢ μὴ κα-  
λῶς φυλάττειν τὴν θέσιν)· ἐπεὶ οὖν οὐδὲν ἔχομεν  
παραδεδομένον ὑπ' ἄλλων, αὐτοὶ τι πειραθῶμεν  
εἰπεῖν.

- Ἀνάγκη δὴ τὸν ἀποκρινόμενον ὑπέχειν λόγον  
θέμενον ἥτοι ἔνδοξον ἢ ἄδοξον θέσιν ἢ μηδέτερον,  
159 b καὶ ἥτοι ἀπλῶς ἔνδοξον ἢ ἄδοξον ἢ ὠρισμένως,  
οἶον τῷδι τινι ἢ αὐτῷ ἢ ἄλλῳ. διαφέρει δ' οὐδὲν  
ὅπως οὖν ἐνδόξου ἢ ἀδόξου οὔσης· ὁ γὰρ αὐτὸς  
τρόπος ἔσται τοῦ καλῶς ἀποκρίνεσθαι, καὶ δοῦναι  
ἢ μὴ δοῦναι τὸ ἐρωτηθέν· ἀδόξου μὲν οὖν οὔσης



## TOPICA, VIII. iv-v

fault but is due to the thesis ; for, possibly, to lay down the wrong thesis originally is a different kind of mistake from not maintaining it properly after one has laid it down.

V. Now since there are no definite principles for those who discuss for the sake of practice and experiment—for those who teach or learn and those who compete with one another have not the same aim, and the aim of the latter differs from that of those who discuss for the sake of inquiry ; for he who is learning must always state what he thinks, since no one even attempts to teach a lie ; on the other hand, when men are competing with one another, the questioner must by some means or other appear to be producing some effect, while the answerer must appear to be unaffected ; but in meetings held for discussion, where the disputants argue not in competition but for the sake of experiment and inquiry, no formal rules have yet been laid down as to the aim which the answerer ought to seek and what sort of things he must offer and what not, so as to maintain his thesis properly or otherwise—since, then, we have no traditions handed down by others, let us try to say something ourselves on the subject.

The answerer must of necessity carry on the argument by taking up a position which is either generally accepted, or generally rejected, or neither accepted nor rejected, or which is accepted or rejected either absolutely or conditionally, for instance by some particular person or by the speaker himself or by someone else. But the way in which it is accepted or rejected makes no difference ; for the proper mode of answering will be the same, namely, to accede to or reject what has been asked. If the

[Note on the absence of definite rules for discussions held for practice and experiment.]

The answerer's procedure depends on the nature (a) of his own thesis, which may be either

159 b

5 τῆς θέσεως ἔνδοξον ἀνάγκη τὸ συμπέρασμα  
 γίνεσθαι, ἐνδόξου δ' ἄδοξον· τὸ γὰρ ἀντικείμενον  
 ἀεὶ τῇ θέσει ὁ ἐρωτῶν συμπεραίνεται. εἰ δὲ μήτ'  
 ἄδοξον μήτ' ἔνδοξον τὸ κείμενον, καὶ τὸ συμ-  
 πέρασμα ἔσται τοιοῦτον. ἐπεὶ δ' ὁ καλῶς συλλο-  
 γιζόμενος ἐξ ἐνδοξοτέρων καὶ γνωριμωτέρων τὸ  
 προβληθὲν ἀποδείκνυσι, φανερόν ὡς ἀδόξου μὲν  
 10 ὄντος ἀπλῶς τοῦ κειμένου οὐ δοτέον τῷ ἀποκρινο-  
 μένῳ οὐθ' ὁ μὴ δοκεῖ ἀπλῶς, οὐθ' ὁ δοκεῖ μὲν  
 ἦττον δὲ τοῦ συμπεράσματος δοκεῖ. ἀδόξου γὰρ  
 οὔσης τῆς θέσεως ἔνδοξον τὸ συμπέρασμα, ὥστε  
 δεῖ τὰ λαμβανόμενα ἔνδοξα πάντ' εἶναι καὶ μᾶλλον  
 ἔνδοξα τοῦ προκειμένου, εἰ μέλλει διὰ τῶν γνωρι-  
 15 μωτέρων τὸ ἦττον γνώριμον περαίνεσθαι. ὥστ'  
 εἴ τι μὴ τοιοῦτόν ἐστι τῶν ἐρωτωμένων, οὐ θετέον  
 τῷ ἀποκρινομένῳ. εἰ δ' ἔνδοξος ἀπλῶς ἡ θέσις,  
 δηλὸν ὅτι τὸ συμπέρασμα ἀπλῶς ἄδοξον. θετέον  
 οὖν τά τε δοκοῦντα πάντα, καὶ τῶν μὴ δοκούντων  
 ὅσα ἦττόν ἐστιν ἄδοξα τοῦ συμπεράσματος·  
 20 ἱκανῶς γὰρ ἂν δόξειε διειλέχθαι. ὁμοίως δὲ εἰ  
 μήτ' ἄδοξος μήτ' ἔνδοξός ἐστιν ἡ θέσις· καὶ γὰρ

position taken up by the answerer is one which is generally rejected, the conclusion must be one which is generally accepted, and *vice versa* ; for the questioner always tries to elicit the conclusion which is the opposite of the answerer's position. If, however, his position is one which is neither generally accepted nor generally rejected, the conclusion will also be of this kind. Now since he who reasons well demonstrates his proposition from more generally accepted and more familiar premisses, (1) it is obvious that, if the questioner's proposition is one which is generally rejected absolutely, the answerer ought not to concede what is thus absolutely rejected, or what is accepted indeed, but less generally than the conclusion aimed at. For, if the answerer's position is one which is generally rejected, the conclusion will be one which is generally accepted, so that the premisses which the questioner tries to secure must all be generally accepted and more so than the conclusion, if the less familiar is to be reached through the more familiar. Therefore, if any of the questions asked are not of this kind, the answerer ought not to agree to them. (2) If, however, the position taken up by the answerer is one generally accepted absolutely, obviously the conclusion aimed at by the questioner will be one which is generally rejected absolutely. The answerer, therefore, should concede all points which are generally accepted and all those not generally accepted which are less generally rejected than the conclusion aimed at ; for then he would be thought to have argued adequately. (3) So likewise if the answerer's position is one which is neither generally rejected nor generally accepted ; for in these circumstances, too, whatever seems true

(1) Generally rejected.

(2) Generally accepted.

(3) Neither generally accepted nor rejected.

οὕτως τὰ τε φαινόμενα ἅπαντὰ δοτέον, καὶ τῶν μὴ δοκούντων ὅσα μᾶλλον ἔνδοξα τοῦ συμπεράσματος· οὕτω γὰρ ἐνδοξότερους συμβήσεται τοὺς λόγους γίνεσθαι. εἰ μὲν οὖν ἀπλῶς ἔνδοξον ἢ

25 ἄδοξον τὸ κείμενον, πρὸς τὰ δοκούντα ἀπλῶς τὴν σύγκρισιν ποιητέον· εἰ δὲ μὴ ἀπλῶς ἔνδοξον ἢ ἄδοξον τὸ κείμενον ἀλλὰ τῷ ἀποκρινομένῳ, πρὸς αὐτὸν<sup>1</sup> τὸ δοκοῦν καὶ μὴ δοκοῦν κρίνοντα θετέον ἢ οὐ θετέον. ἂν δ' ἑτέρου δόξαν διαφυλάττῃ ὁ ἀποκρινόμενος, δῆλον ὅτι πρὸς τὴν ἐκείνου διάνοιαν  
30 ἀποβλέποντα θετέον ἕκαστα καὶ ἀρνητέον. διὸ καὶ οἱ κομίζοντες ἀλλοτρίας δόξας, οἷον ἀγαθὸν καὶ κακὸν εἶναι ταυτόν, καθάπερ Ἡράκλειτός φησιν, οὐ διδόασιν μὴ παρῆναι ἅμα τῷ αὐτῷ τάναντία, οὐχ ὥς οὐ δοκοῦν αὐτοῖς τοῦτο, ἀλλ' ὅτι καθ' Ἡράκλειτον οὕτω λεκτέον. ποιοῦσι δὲ τοῦτο καὶ οἱ παρ' ἀλλήλων δεχόμενοι τὰς θέσεις·

135 στοχάζονται γὰρ ὡς ἂν εἴπειεν ὁ θέμενος.

VI. Φανερόν οὖν τίνων στοχαστέον τῷ ἀποκρινομένῳ, εἴτε ἀπλῶς ἔνδοξον εἴτε τινὶ τὸ κείμενόν ἐστιν. ἐπεὶ δ' ἀνάγκη πᾶν τὸ ἐρωτώμενον ἢ ἔνδοξον εἶναι ἢ ἄδοξον ἢ μηδέτερον, καὶ ἢ πρὸς τὸν λόγον ἢ μὴ πρὸς τὸν λόγον εἶναι τὸ ἐρωτώ-  
160 a μενον, ἐὰν μὲν ἢ δοκοῦν καὶ μὴ πρὸς τὸν λόγον, δοτέον φήσαντα δοκεῖν, ἐὰν δὲ μὴ δοκοῦν καὶ μὴ

<sup>1</sup> Reading αὐτὸν for αὐτόν with Pickard-Cambridge.

<sup>a</sup> Frags. 58 and 102 (Diels).



should be conceded, and also of the points not generally accepted those which are more generally accepted than the conclusion ; for the result of this is that the arguments will be more generally accepted. If, then, the answerer's proposition is one which is generally accepted or generally rejected absolutely, the comparison must be made with reference to what is generally accepted ; but, if the proposition is not generally accepted or rejected absolutely, but only by the answerer, then it must be conceded or not conceded with reference to his own personal judgement of what is generally accepted or not. If, however, the answerer is defending someone else's opinion, obviously he must concede or reject each point in accordance with that person's judgement. It is for this reason too that those who bring in other people's opinions—for example, Heracleitus' statement that good and evil are the same thing <sup>a</sup>—refuse to concede that it is impossible for contraries to belong to the same thing at the same time, not because this is not their view, but because, according to Heracleitus, they must say so. This is also the practice of those who take over positions from one another ; for they aim at saying what the man who took up the position in question would say.

VI. It is now clear what should be the aims of the answerer, whether the position adopted is generally accepted absolutely or only by some individual. Now, every question asked must be either generally accepted or generally rejected or neither accepted nor rejected, and what is asked must be either relevant or irrelevant to the argument ; if it is generally accepted and irrelevant, the answerer should admit its general acceptance and concede it. If, however,

(b) Of the particular question asked, which (1) should be generally acceptable and relevant.

πρὸς τὸν λόγον, δοτέον μὲν, ἐπισημαντέον δὲ τὸ  
 μὴ δοκοῦν πρὸς εὐλάβειαν εὐηθείας. ὄντος δὲ πρὸς  
 τὸν λόγον καὶ δοκοῦντος λεκτέον ὅτι δοκεῖ μὲν,  
 5 ἀλλὰ λίαν σύνεγγυς τοῦ ἐν ἀρχῇ ἐστὶ καὶ ἀναιρεῖται  
 τούτου τεθέντος τὸ κείμενον. εἰ δὲ πρὸς τὸν  
 λόγον, λίαν δ' ἄδοξον τὸ ἀξίωμα, συμβαίνειν μὲν  
 φατέον τούτου τεθέντος, ἀλλὰ λίαν εὐηθες εἶναι  
 τὸ προτεινόμενον. εἰ δὲ μήτ' ἄδοξον μήτ' ἔνδοξον,  
 εἰ μὲν μηδὲν πρὸς τὸν λόγον, δοτέον μηδὲν διορί-  
 10 σαντι, εἰ δὲ πρὸς τὸν λόγον, ἐπισημαντέον ὅτι  
 ἀναιρεῖται τεθέντος τὸ ἐν ἀρχῇ. οὕτω γὰρ ὁ τ'  
 ἀποκρινόμενος οὐδὲν δόξει δι' αὐτὸν πάσχειν, εἰ  
 προορῶν ἕκαστα τιθῇ, ὁ τ' ἐρωτῶν τεύξεται συλ-  
 λογισμοῦ τιθεμένων αὐτῷ πάντων τῶν ἐνδοξο-  
 τέρων τοῦ συμπεράσματος. ὅσοι δ' ἐξ ἀδοξοτέρων  
 15 τοῦ συμπεράσματος ἐπιχειροῦσι συλλογίζεσθαι,  
 δῆλον ὡς οὐ καλῶς συλλογίζονται· διὸ τοῖς ἐρω-  
 τῶσιν οὐ θετέον.

VII. Ὅμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἀσαφῶς καὶ  
 πλεοναχῶς λεγομένων ἀπαντήτέον. ἐπεὶ γὰρ  
 δέδοται τῷ ἀποκρινομένῳ μὴ μανθάνοντι εἰπεῖν  
 20 ὅτι οὐ μανθάνω, καὶ πλεοναχῶς λεγομένου μὴ ἐξ  
 ἀνάγκης ὁμολογῆσαι ἢ ἀρνήσασθαι, δῆλον ὡς πρῶ-  
 τον μὲν, ἂν μὴ σαφὲς ᾖ τὸ ῥηθέν, οὐκ ἀποκνη-

it is not generally accepted and irrelevant, he should concede it but put in a remark that it is not generally accepted, as a precaution against appearing to be simple minded. If, on the other hand, it is relevant and generally accepted, he should remark that it is generally accepted but that it is too near to the original view and say that, if it is conceded, the proposition falls to the ground. If what the questioner claims is relevant to the argument but too generally rejected, he should say that, if this concession is made, the conclusion results, but that what is proposed is too silly to be accepted. When it is neither generally rejected nor generally accepted, if it is not relevant to the argument, it should be conceded without qualification, but, if it is relevant, a remark should be added that, if it is conceded, the original proposition falls to the ground. In this way the answerer will not be thought to suffer through his own fault, since he foresees the result of his various concessions, and the questioner will carry through his reasoning with all the premisses which are more generally accepted than the conclusion conceded to him. Those who attempt to reason from premisses less generally accepted than the conclusion obviously do not reason properly; therefore such premisses should not be conceded to questioners.

VII. The situation must be met in a similar way when terms are used obscurely and have more than one meaning. For, since the answerer is always allowed, if he does not understand, to say, "I don't understand," and, if the question has more than one meaning, he need not necessarily assent or deny, it is obvious, in the first place, that, if what is said is not clear, he must not shrink from saying that he does

(2) Should be stated clearly and unequivocally.

160 a

τέον τὸ φάναι μὴ συνιέναι· πολλάκις γὰρ ἐκ τοῦ  
 μὴ σαφῶς ἐρωτηθέντας διδόναι ἀπαντᾷ τι δυσχερές.  
 ἂν δὲ γνώριμον μὲν ἢ πλεοναχῶς δὲ λεγόμενον,  
 25 εἴαν μὲν ἐπὶ πάντων ἀληθές ἢ ψεῦδος ἢ τὸ λεγό-  
 μενον, δοτέον ἀπλῶς ἢ ἀρνητέον, εἴαν δ' ἐπὶ τι  
 μὲν ψεῦδος ἢ ἐπὶ τι δ' ἀληθές, ἐπισημαντέον  
 ὅτι πλεοναχῶς λέγεται καὶ διότι τὸ μὲν ψεῦδος  
 τὸ δ' ἀληθές· ὕστερον γὰρ διαιρουμένου ἁδηλον  
 εἰ καὶ ἐν ἀρχῇ συνεώρα τὸ ἀμφίβολον. εἴαν δὲ μὴ  
 προῖδῃ τὸ ἀμφίβολον ἄλλ' εἰς θάτερον βλέψας θῇ,  
 30 ῥητέον πρὸς τὸν ἐπὶ θάτερον ἄγοντα ὅτι οὐκ εἰς  
 τοῦτο βλέπων ἔδωκα ἄλλ' εἰς θάτερον αὐτῶν.  
 πλειόνων γὰρ ὄντων τῶν ὑπὸ ταῦτόν ὄνομα ἢ  
 λόγον ῥαδίᾳ ἢ ἀμφισβήτησις. εἴαν δὲ καὶ σαφές  
 ἢ καὶ ἀπλοῦν τὸ ἐρωτώμενον, ἢ ναί ἢ οὐ ἀποκρι-  
 τέον.

- 35 VIII. Ἐπεὶ δὲ πᾶσα πρότασις συλλογιστικὴ ἢ  
 τούτων τίς ἐστὶν ἐξ ὧν ὁ συλλογισμὸς ἢ τινος  
 τούτων ἔνεκα (δῆλον δ' ὅταν ἐτέρου χάριν λαμ-  
 βάνηται τῷ πλείῳ τὰ ὅμοια ἐρωτᾷ· ἢ γὰρ δι'  
 ἐπαγωγῆς ἢ δι' ὁμοιότητος ὡς ἐπὶ τὸ πολὺ τὸ  
 καθόλου λαμβάνουσιν), τὰ μὲν οὖν καθ' ἕκαστα  
 160 b πάντα θετέον, ἂν ἢ ἀληθῇ καὶ ἔνδοξα, πρὸς δὲ τὸ  
 καθόλου πειρατέον ἔνστασιν φέρειν· τὸ γὰρ ἄνευ  
 ἐνστάσεως, ἢ οὔσης ἢ δοκούσης, κωλύει τὸν  
 λόγον δυσκολαίνειν ἐστίν. εἰ οὖν ἐπὶ πολλῶν  
 φαινομένων μὴ δίδωσι τὸ καθόλου μὴ ἔχων ἐν-  
 5 στασιν, φανερόν ὅτι δυσκολαίνει. ἔτι εἰ μὴδ'



not comprehend ; for a difficulty often confronts people if they assent when questions have not been clearly put to them. When the question is intelligible but can bear more than one meaning, then, supposing what it says is true or false in every case, he must assent or deny absolutely, but, if it is partly true and partly false, he must add the remark that it has several meanings and that in one meaning it is false, in the other true ; for, if he makes this distinction only at a later stage, it is not clear whether originally he noticed the ambiguity. If he did not foresee the ambiguity but assents when he has only seen one meaning, he must say to the questioner when he leads on to the other meaning, " It was not that meaning that I had in view but the other one, when I gave my assent " ; for, when several things fall under the same term or expression, disagreement easily arises. If, on the other hand, the question asked is plain and simple, the answer must be ' yes ' or ' no.'

VIII. Now since every premiss used in reasoning is either one of the constituent parts of the reasoning or else is assumed for the sake of one of these parts (and it is obvious when it is assumed for the sake of something else from the asking of many similar questions ; for people usually secure the universal either by induction or by similarity), all the several particulars must be admitted if they are true and generally accepted. But against the universal one must try to bring an objection ; for to hold up the argument without an objection, either real or apparent, is to behave peevishly. If, therefore, a man refuses to concede the universal, in a case where many instances are displayed, without having any objection to offer, he is clearly behaving peevishly. Further, if

(3) Should not admit of objection or counter-argument.

ἀντεπιχειρεῖν ἔχει ὅτι οὐκ ἀληθές, πολλῶ μᾶλλον  
 ἂν δόξειε δυσκολαίνειν. καίτοι οὐδὲ τοῦθ' ἱκανόν·  
 πολλοὺς γὰρ λόγους ἔχομεν ἐναντίους ταῖς δόξαις,  
 οὓς χαλεπὸν λύειν, καθάπερ τοῦ<sup>1</sup> Ζήνωνος ὅτι οὐκ  
 ἐνδέχεται κινεῖσθαι οὐδὲ τὸ στάδιον διελθεῖν· ἀλλ'  
 10 οὐ διὰ τοῦτο ἀντικείμενα τούτοις οὐ θετέον. εἰ  
 οὖν μῆτ' ἐνίστασθαι μῆτ' ἀντεπιχειρεῖν ἔχων μὴ  
 τίθησι, δῆλον ὅτι δυσκολαίνει· ἔστι γὰρ ἢ ἐν  
 λόγοις δυσκολία ἀπόκρισις παρὰ τοὺς εἰρημένους  
 τρόπους, συλλογισμοῦ φθαρτική.

IX. Ὑπέχειν δὲ καὶ θέσιν καὶ ὀρισμὸν αὐτὸν  
 15 αὐτῷ δεῖ προεγχειρήσαντα· ἐξ ὧν γὰρ ἀναιροῦσιν  
 οἱ πυνθανόμενοι τὸ κείμενον, δῆλον ὅτι τούτοις  
 ἐναντιωτέον.

"Αδοξον δ' ὑπόθεσιν εὐλαβητέον ὑπέχειν. εἴη  
 δ' ἂν ἄδοξος διχῶς· καὶ γὰρ ἐξ ἧς ἄτοπα συμ-  
 βαίνει λέγειν, οἷον εἰ πάντα φαίη τις κινεῖσθαι ἢ  
 20 μηδέν, καὶ ὅσα χείρονος ἡθους ἐλέσθαι καὶ ὑπ-  
 ἐναντία ταῖς βουλήσέσιν, οἷον ὅτι ἡδονὴ τὰγαθὸν  
 καὶ τὸ ἀδικεῖν βέλτιον τοῦ ἀδικεῖσθαι. οὐ γὰρ  
 ὥς λόγου χάριν ὑπέχοντα ἀλλ' ὥς τὰ δοκοῦντα  
 λέγοντα μισοῦσιν.

X. "Οσοι δὲ τῶν λόγων ψεῦδος συλλογίζονται,  
 λυτέον ἀναιροῦντα παρ' ὃ γίνεται τὸ ψεῦδος. οὐ

<sup>1</sup> τοῦ is omitted by Bekker in error.

<sup>a</sup> *Phys.* 233 a 21 ff. ; 239 b 9 ff.

he cannot even advance a counter-argument to prove that it is not true, he would be regarded as much more peevish. Yet even this is not enough; for we get many arguments which are contrary to accepted opinions and yet are difficult to solve, for example, that of Zeno <sup>a</sup> that motion or traversing the stadium is impossible; but we ought not on this account to refuse to assert the opposites of these views. If, therefore, a man refuses to make an admission when he has no objection or counter-argument to advance, he is obviously acting peevishly; for peevishness in argument is answering otherwise than in the ways mentioned above, with the object of destroying the reasoning.

IX. Before he upholds a thesis or a definition, a man ought to argue against it by himself; for obviously he must oppose the grounds on which the questioners seek to subvert the position which he has taken up.

*Rules for  
the defence  
of a thesis.*

Care must be taken not to uphold a hypothesis which is generally unacceptable. There are two ways in which it may be unacceptable. It may be one which leads to the making of absurd statements, for example, if one were to say that everything or nothing is in motion; on the other hand, it may be one of those which a bad character would choose or which are contrary to our wishes, for example, that pleasure is the good and that to commit injustice is better than to suffer it. For men hate him who makes such assertions, regarding him not as maintaining them for the sake of argument but as saying what he really thinks.

X. Of arguments which reason to establish a falsehood, a solution must be provided by demolishing that from which the falsehood arises. For a man has

*The solu-  
tion of false  
arguments.*

160 b

25 γὰρ ὅτιοῦν ἀνελὼν λέλυκεν, οὐδ' εἰ ψεῦδός ἐστι  
 τὸ ἀναιρούμενον. ἔχοι γὰρ ἂν πλείω ψεύδη ὁ  
 λόγος, οἷον ἐάν τις λάβῃ τὸν καθήμενον γράφειν,  
 Σωκράτη δὲ καθῆσθαι· συμβαίνει γὰρ ἐκ τούτων  
 Σωκράτη γράφειν. ἀναιρεθέντος οὖν τοῦ Σωκράτη  
 καθῆσθαι οὐδὲν μᾶλλον λέλυται ὁ λόγος· καίτοι  
 30 ψεῦδος τὸ ἀξίωμα. ἀλλ' οὐ παρὰ τοῦτο ὁ λόγος  
 ψευδής· ἂν γὰρ τις τύχῃ καθήμενος μὲν μὴ γράφῃ  
 δέ, οὐκέτι ἐπὶ τοῦ τοιούτου ἡ αὐτὴ λύσις ἀρμόσει.  
 ὥστε οὐ τοῦτο ἀναιρετέον, ἀλλὰ τὸ τὸν καθήμενον  
 γράφειν· οὐ γὰρ πᾶς ὁ καθήμενος γράφει. λέλυκε  
 μὲν οὖν πάντως ὁ ἀνελὼν παρ' ὃ γίνεται τὸ ψεῦδος,  
 35 οἶδε δὲ τὴν λύσιν ὁ εἰδὼς ὅτι παρὰ τοῦτο ὁ λόγος,  
 καθάπερ ἐπὶ τῶν ψευδογραφουμένων· οὐ γὰρ  
 ἀπόχρη τὸ ἐνστήναι, οὐδ' ἂν ψεῦδος ἢ τὸ ἀναιρού-  
 μενον, ἀλλὰ καὶ διότι ψεῦδος ἀποδεικτέον· οὕτω  
 γὰρ ἂν εἴη φανερόν ποτερον προορῶν τι ἢ οὐ  
 ποιεῖται τὴν ἔνστασιν.

161 a Ἔστι δὲ λόγον κωλῦσαι συμπεράνασθαι τετρα-  
 χῶς. ἢ γὰρ ἀνελόντα παρ' ὃ γίνεται τὸ ψεῦδος,  
 ἢ πρὸς τὸν ἐρωτῶντα ἔνστασιν εἰπόντα· πολλάκις  
 γὰρ οὐδὲ λέλυκεν, ὁ μέντοι πυνθανόμενος οὐ  
 5 δύναται πορρωτέρω προαγαγεῖν. τρίτον δὲ πρὸς  
 τὰ ἠρωτημένα· συμβαίη γὰρ ἂν ἐκ μὲν τῶν  
 ἠρωτημένων μὴ γίνεσθαι ὃ βούλεται διὰ τὸ κακῶς  
 ἠρωτηῆσθαι, προστεθέντος δὲ τινος γίνεσθαι τὸ



not reached a solution by demolishing any chance point, even though what is demolished is false. For the argument might contain several falsehoods, for example, if one were to assume that 'he who sits, writes' and 'Socrates is sitting'; for the result of these premisses is that 'Socrates is writing.' If the statement that 'Socrates is sitting' is demolished, the argument is no nearer a solution, and yet what was claimed is false, but the argument is not false in respect of this; for if a man happened to be sitting but not writing, then the same solution would be no longer applicable. And so this is not the point which must be demolished, but that 'he who sits, writes'; for not everyone who sits is writing. The man who has demolished that on which the falsehood depends has provided a complete solution, and he who knows that the argument depends on a particular point, knows the solution, just as in the case of false geometrical figures; for it is not enough to make an objection even if what is demolished is false, but why it is false must also be demonstrated; for thus it would be clear whether or no he makes his objection with an object in view.

There are four ways in which it is possible to prevent a man from bringing his argument to a conclusion, firstly, by demolishing that on which the falsehood depends, or, secondly, by bringing an objection against the questioner; for often the answerer has provided no solution, but nevertheless the questioner can proceed no further. Thirdly, an objection can be made to the questions; for it might so happen that what the questioner wants does not follow as a result of his questions because they have been badly asked, but, if something is added, the

Four  
methods of  
preventing  
an argu-  
ment from  
reaching a  
conclusion.

συμπέρασμα. εἰ μὲν οὖν μηκέτι δύναται προάγειν  
 ὁ ἐρωτῶν, πρὸς τὸν ἐρωτῶντα εἴη ἂν ἐνστάσις,  
 εἰ δὲ δύναται, πρὸς τὰ ἡρωτημένα. τετάρτη δὲ  
 10 καὶ χειρίστη τῶν ἐνστάσεων ἡ πρὸς τὸν χρόνον·  
 ἔνιοι γὰρ τοιαῦτα ἐνίστανται πρὸς ἃ διαλεχθῆναι  
 πλείονός ἐστι χρόνου ἢ τῆς παρούσης διατριβῆς.

Αἱ μὲν οὖν ἐνστάσεις, καθάπερ εἶπαμεν, τε-  
 τραχῶς γίνονται· λύσις δ' ἐστὶ τῶν εἰρημένων ἡ  
 15 πρώτη μόνον, αἱ δὲ λοιπαὶ κωλύσεις τινὲς καὶ  
 ἐμποδισμοὶ τῶν συμπερασμάτων.

XI. Ἐπιτίμησις δὲ λόγου κατ' αὐτόν τε τὸν  
 λόγον, καὶ ὅταν ἐρωτᾶται, οὐχ ἡ αὐτή· πολλάκις  
 γὰρ τοῦ μὴ καλῶς διειλέχθαι τὸν λόγον ὁ ἐρωτώ-  
 μενος αἷτιος διὰ τὸ μὴ συγχωρεῖν ἐξ ὧν ἦν δια-  
 20 λεχθῆναι καλῶς πρὸς τὴν θέσιν· οὐ γὰρ ἔστιν ἐπὶ  
 θατέρῳ μόνον τὸ καλῶς ἐπιτελεσθῆναι τὸ κοινὸν  
 ἔργον· ἀναγκαῖον οὖν ἐνίστε πρὸς τὸν λέγοντα  
 καὶ μὴ πρὸς τὴν θέσιν ἐπιχειρεῖν, ὅταν ὁ ἀπο-  
 κρινόμενος τὰναντία τῷ ἐρωτῶντι παρατηρῇ προσ-  
 ερηρέαζων· δυσκολαίνοντες οὖν ἀγωνιστικὰς καὶ  
 οὐ διαλεκτικὰς ποιοῦνται τὰς διατριβάς. ἔτι δ'  
 25 ἐπεὶ γυμνασίας καὶ πείρας χάριν ἄλλ' οὐ διδα-  
 σκαλίας οἱ τοιοῦτοι τῶν λόγων, δῆλον ὡς οὐ μόνον  
 τὰληθῆ συλλογιστέον ἀλλὰ καὶ ψευδός, οὐδὲ δι'  
 ἀληθῶν ἀεὶ ἄλλ' ἐνίστε καὶ ψευδῶν. πολλάκις  
 γὰρ ἀληθοῦς τεθέντος ἀναιρεῖν ἀνάγκη τὸν δια-  
 λεγόμενον, ὥστε προτατέον τὰ ψευδῆ. ἐνίστε δὲ

conclusion results. If, therefore, he cannot advance his argument any further, an objection could be raised against the questioner, but, if he can still advance his argument, against his questions. The fourth and worst form of objection is that which relates to the time available ; for some people bring forward objections which take longer to deal with than the present discussion allows.

The kinds of objection, then, as we have said, are four in number ; but of those mentioned the first only is a solution, the others are merely hindrances and impediments in the path to conclusions.

XI. Criticism of an argument when it is taken by itself is not the same thing as when it forms the subject of questions ; for often the person questioned is the cause of the argument not being properly discussed, because he does not concede the points which would have enabled the argument against his thesis to have been properly carried out ; for it is not within the power of one party only to ensure the proper accomplishment of the common task. It is, therefore, necessary sometimes to attack the speaker and not his thesis, when the answerer is on the watch for points against the questioner and also employs abuse. By behaving peevishly, then, people make their discussions contentious instead of dialectical. Furthermore, since such arguments are carried on for the sake of practice and experiment rather than instruction, it is obvious that people must argue to establish not only the truth but also falsehood, and not always by means of what is true but also sometimes by means of what is false. For often, when what is true has been asserted, the dialectician has to demolish it and so false views have to be put forward. Sometimes,

Various points concerning arguments and conclusions :  
(a) Adverse criticism of an argument and of a person arguing is not the same thing.

161 a

30 καὶ ψεύδους τεθέντος ἀναιρετέον διὰ ψευδῶν· οὐδὲν γὰρ κωλύει τινὲ δοκεῖν τὰ μὴ ὄντα μᾶλλον τῶν ἀληθῶν, ὥστ' ἐκ τῶν ἐκείνῳ δοκούντων τοῦ λόγου γινομένου μᾶλλον ἔσται πεπεισμένος ἢ ὠφελημένος. δεῖ δὲ τὸν καλῶς μεταβιβάζοντα διαλεκτικῶς καὶ μὴ ἐριστικῶς μεταβιβάζειν, καθ-

35 ἀπερ τὸν γεωμέτρην γεωμετρικῶς, ἂν τε ψεῦδος ἂν τ' ἀληθές ἢ τὸ συμπεραινόμενον· ποῖοι δὲ διαλεκτικοὶ συλλογισμοί, πρότερον εἴρηται. ἐπεὶ δὲ φαῦλος κοινωνὸς ὁ ἐμποδίζων τὸ κοινὸν ἔργον, δηλὸν ὅτι καὶ ἐν λόγῳ. κοινὸν γάρ τι καὶ ἐν τούτοις προκείμενόν ἐστι, πλὴν τῶν ἀγωνιζομένων.

40 τούτοις δ' οὐκ ἔστιν ἀμφοτέροις τυχεῖν τοῦ αὐτοῦ

161 b τέλους· πλείους γὰρ ἐνὸς ἀδύνατον νικᾶν. διαφέρει δ' οὐδὲν ἂν τε διὰ τοῦ ἀποκρίνεσθαι ἂν τε διὰ τοῦ ἐρωτᾶν ποιῇ τοῦτο· ὃ τε γὰρ ἐριστικῶς ἐρωτῶν φαύλως διαλέγεται, ὃ τ' ἐν τῷ ἀποκρίνεσθαι μὴ διδούς τὸ φαίνόμενον μὴδ' ἐκδεχόμενος ὃ τί ποτε  
5 βούλεται ὁ ἐρωτῶν πυθέσθαι. δηλὸν οὖν ἐκ τῶν εἰρημένων ὅτι οὐχ ὁμοίως ἐπιτιμητέον καθ' αὐτόν τε τῷ λόγῳ καὶ τῷ ἐρωτῶντι· οὐδὲν γὰρ κωλύει τὸν μὲν λόγον φαῦλον εἶναι, τὸν δ' ἐρωτῶντα ὡς ἐνδέχεται βέλτιστα πρὸς τὸν ἀποκρινόμενον διελέχθαι. πρὸς γὰρ τοὺς δυσκολαίνοντας οὐ δυνατόν  
10 ἴσως εὐθὺς οἷους τις βούλεται ἀλλ' οἷους ἐνδέχεται ποιεῖσθαι τοὺς συλλογισμούς.

Ἐπεὶ δ' ἐστὶν ἀδιόριστον πότε τὰναντία καὶ πότε τὰ ἐν ἀρχῇ λαμβάνουσιν οἱ ἄνθρωποι (πολ-



too, when what is false has been asserted, it has to be demolished by means of falsehoods ; for there is nothing to prevent a man accepting what are not facts rather than the truth ; and so, if the argument is based on what he accepts, he will be persuaded rather than benefited. The man, however, who is seeking to convert another in the proper manner should do so in a dialectical and not in a contentious way, just as a geometrician reasons geometrically, whether the conclusion aimed at is false or true. The nature of dialectical reasonings has already been described. Now in business he who hinders the common task is a bad partner, and the same is true in argument ; for here, too, there is a common purpose, unless the parties are merely competing against one another ; for then they cannot both reach the same goal, since more than one cannot be victorious. It makes no difference whether a man acts like this in his answers or in his questions ; for he who asks questions in a contentious spirit and he who in replying refuses to admit what is apparent and to accept whatever question the questioner wishes to put, are both of them bad dialecticians. It is clear, therefore, from what has been said that the argument by itself and the questioner by himself are not open to the same sort of criticism ; for there is no reason why, though the argument is bad, the questioner should not have argued with the answerer in the best possible manner. Against those who shew peevishness it is not perhaps possible immediately to employ such reasonings as one wishes, but one only employs such as one can.

Since it cannot be determined when men are assuming contraries and when they are assuming

(b) Contentious argument should be avoided.

(c) How arguments become vitiated.

λάκεις γὰρ καθ' αὐτοὺς λέγοντες τὰ ἐναντία λέγουσι,  
καὶ ἀνανεύσαντες πρότερον διδόασιν ὕστερον.  
διόπερ ἐρωτώμενοι τὰναντία καὶ τὸ ἐν ἀρχῇ  
15 πολλάκις ὑπακούουσιν), ἀνάγκη φαύλους γίνεσθαι  
τοὺς λόγους. αἴτιος δ' ὁ ἀποκρινόμενος, τὰ μὲν  
οὐ διδούς, τὰ δὲ τοιαῦτα διδούς. φανερόν οὖν ὥς  
οὐχ ὁμοίως ἐπιτιμητέον τοῖς ἐρωτῶσι καὶ τοῖς  
λόγοις.

Καθ' αὐτὸν δὲ τῷ λόγῳ πέντ' εἰσὶν ἐπιτιμήσεις,  
20 πρώτη μὲν ὅταν ἐκ τῶν ἐρωτωμένων μὴ συμ-  
περαίνεται μήτε τὸ προτεθέν μήτε ὅλως μηδὲν  
ὄντων ψευδῶν ἢ ἀδόξων, ἢ ἀπάντων ἢ τῶν πλεί-  
στων, ἐν οἷς τὸ συμπέρασμα, καὶ μήτ' ἀφαιρεθέντων  
τινῶν μήτε προστεθέντων μηδὲ τῶν μὲν ἀφαιρεθέν-  
των τῶν δὲ προστεθέντων γίνηται τὸ συμπέρασμα.  
25 δευτέρα δὲ εἰ πρὸς τὴν θέσιν μὴ γίνοιτο ὁ συλλο-  
γισμὸς ἐκ τοιούτων τε καὶ οὕτως ὥς εἴρηται  
πρότερον. τρίτη δ' εἰ προστεθέντων τινῶν γίνοιτο  
συλλογισμὸς, ταῦτα δ' εἴη χεῖρῳ τῶν ἐρωτηθέντων  
καὶ ἡττον ἐνδοξα τοῦ συμπεράσματος. πάλιν εἰ  
ἀφαιρεθέντων τινῶν· ἐνίστε γὰρ πλείω λαμβάνουσι  
30 τῶν ἀναγκαίων, ὥστε οὐ τῷ ταῦτ' εἶναι γίνεται  
ὁ συλλογισμὸς. ἔτι εἰ ἐξ ἀδοξοτέρων καὶ ἡττον  
πιστῶν τοῦ συμπεράσματος, ἢ εἰ ἐξ ἀληθῶν ἀλλὰ  
πλείονος ἔργου δεομένων ἀποδείξαι τοῦ προβλή-  
ματος.

the original contention—for often when they are speaking by themselves they assert contraries and, after first denying something, afterwards admit it (hence, when they are questioned, they often assent to contraries and to the original contention)—arguments necessarily deteriorate. But it is the answerer who is responsible since he refuses to grant some points but grants others of the same kind. It is obvious, therefore, that the questioners and the arguments are not open to the same kind of criticism.

The argument in itself is open to criticism under five different conditions : (1) when as a result of the questions neither the conclusion proposed, nor any conclusion at all, is reached, because all or most of the premisses on which the conclusion depends are either false or not generally accepted, and when neither the suppression nor the addition of any premisses makes the conclusion possible ; (2) if the reasoning, based on the premisses in the manner described above, were not to be applicable to the thesis ; (3) if reasoning were to proceed as a result of certain additional premisses, but yet these were to be inferior to those contained in the questions and less generally accepted than the conclusion ; again (4) if the reasoning were to proceed as the result of certain suppressions : for sometimes people assume more premisses than are necessary, and so it is not their presence which allows the reasoning to proceed ; furthermore (5) if the reasoning were to proceed from premisses less generally accepted and less credible than the conclusion, or if it were to proceed from premisses which, though true, require more labour to demonstrate than the problem.

(d) Five ways in which an argument is in itself open to criticism.

161 b

Οὐ δεῖ δὲ πάντων τῶν προβλημάτων ὁμοίως  
 35 ἀξιῶν τοὺς συλλογισμοὺς ἐνδόξους εἶναι καὶ  
 πιθανούς· φύσει γὰρ εὐθὺς ὑπάρχει τὰ μὲν ρᾶν  
 τὰ δὲ χαλεπώτερα τῶν ζητουμένων, ὥστε ἂν ἐξ  
 ὧν ἐνδέχεται μάλιστα ἐνδόξων συμβιβάσῃ, διεί-  
 λεκται καλῶς. φανερόν οὖν ὅτι οὐδὲ λόγῳ ἢ αὐτῇ  
 ἐπιτίμησις πρὸς τε τὸ προβληθὲν καὶ καθ' αὐτόν.  
 40 οὐδὲν γὰρ κωλύει καθ' αὐτόν μὲν εἶναι τὸν λόγον  
 162 a ψεκτόν, πρὸς δὲ τὸ πρόβλημα ἐπαινετόν, καὶ  
 πάλιν ἀντεστραμμένως καθ' αὐτόν μὲν ἐπαινετόν,  
 πρὸς δὲ τὸ πρόβλημα ψεκτόν, ὅταν ἐκ πολλῶν ἢ  
 ῥᾶδιον ἐνδόξων συμπεράνασθαι καὶ ἀληθῶν. εἴη  
 δ' ἂν ποτε λόγος καὶ συμπεπερασμένος μὴ συμ-  
 5 πεπερασμένου χείρων, ὅταν ὁ μὲν ἐξ εὐηθῶν  
 συμπεραίνεται μὴ τοιούτου τοῦ προβλήματος  
 ὄντος, ὁ δὲ προσδέηται τοιούτων ἃ ἐστὶν ἐνδοξα  
 καὶ ἀληθῆ, καὶ μὴ ἐν τοῖς προσλαμβανομένοις ἢ  
 ὁ λόγος. τοῖς δὲ διὰ ψευδῶν ἀληθὲς συμπεραι-  
 νομένοις οὐ δίκαιον ἐπιτιμᾶν· ψεῦδος μὲν γὰρ αἰεὶ  
 10 ἀνάγκη διὰ ψεύδους συλλογίζεσθαι, τὸ δ' ἀληθὲς  
 ἔστι καὶ διὰ ψευδῶν ποτὲ συλλογίζεσθαι. φανερόν  
 δ' ἐκ τῶν Ἀναλυτικῶν.

Ὅταν δ' ἀπόδειξις ἢ τινὸς ὁ εἰρημένος λόγος,  
 εἰ τί ἐστὶν ἄλλο πρὸς τὸ συμπέρασμα μηδαμῶς

<sup>a</sup> An. Pr. 53 b 26 ff.



One ought not to demand that the reasoning of every problem should meet with the same general acceptance and be equally convincing; for it is an immediate result of the nature of things that some subjects of inquiry are easier and some more difficult, so that, if a man carries conviction by means of views which meet with the widest acceptance possible, he has argued well. It is clear, therefore, that the same criticism does not apply to an argument when viewed in relation to the proposition and when taken by itself. For there is no reason why the argument should not be reprehensible in itself but commendable when viewed in relation to the proposition, and again, conversely, commendable in itself but reprehensible when viewed in relation to the proposition, when it is easy to draw a conclusion from a number of premisses which are generally accepted and true. It may also be that sometimes an argument even though brought to a conclusion is inferior to one which is not brought to a conclusion, when the former is concluded from premisses which are foolish, though the proposition is not foolish, whereas the latter requires additional premisses which are generally accepted and true but the argument does not depend on these additional assumptions. It is unjust to criticize those who draw true conclusions from false premisses; for a false conclusion must necessarily be always argued by means of a false premiss, whereas the truth may sometimes be argued even by means of false premisses. This is clearly shown in the *Analytics*.<sup>a</sup>

When the argument stated is a demonstration of something, but it is something irrelevant which has nothing to do with the conclusion, no inference will

(e) An argument may be open to criticism in itself but commendable in relation to the proposition, and vice versa.

(f) Philo-sopheme, epichireme, sophism and aporeme.

ἔχον, οὐκ ἔσται περὶ<sup>1</sup> ἐκείνου συλλογισμός· ἂν δὲ  
 15 φαίνεται, σόφισμα ἔσται, οὐκ ἀπόδειξις. ἔστι  
 δὲ φιλοσόφημα μὲν συλλογισμός ἀποδεικτικός,  
 ἐπιχείρημα δὲ συλλογισμός διαλεκτικός, σόφισμα  
 δὲ συλλογισμός ἐριστικός, ἀπόρημα δὲ συλλογισμός  
 διαλεκτικός ἀντιφάσεως.

Εἰ δ' ἐξ ἀμφοτέρων τι δοκούντων δειχθείη, μὴ  
 20 ὁμοίως δὲ δοκούντων, οὐδὲν κωλύει τὸ δειχθέν  
 μᾶλλον ἑκατέρου δοκεῖν. ἀλλ' εἰ τὸ μὲν δοκοίη  
 τὸ δὲ μηδετέρως, ἢ εἰ τὸ μὲν δοκοίη τὸ δὲ μὴ  
 δοκοίη, εἰ μὲν ὁμοίως, ὁμοίως ἂν εἴη καὶ μή, εἰ  
 δὲ μᾶλλον θάτερον, ἀκολουθήσει τῷ μᾶλλον.

Ἔστι δέ τις ἁμαρτία καὶ αὕτη περὶ τοὺς συλ-  
 25 λογισμούς, ὅταν δείξῃ διὰ μακροτέρων, ἐνὸν δι'  
 ἐλαττόνων καὶ ἐν τῷ λόγῳ ὑπαρχόντων, οἷον ὅτι  
 ἐστὶ δόξα μᾶλλον ἑτέρα ἑτέρας, εἴ τις αἰτήσαιτο  
 αὐτοέκαστον μάλιστα εἶναι, εἶναι δὲ δοξαστὸν  
 ἀληθῶς αὐτό, ὥστε τῶν τινῶν μᾶλλον εἶναι αὐτό·  
 πρὸς δὲ τὸ μᾶλλον μᾶλλον τὸ λεγόμενον εἶναι· εἶναι  
 30 δὲ καὶ αὐτοδόξαν ἀληθῆ, ἢ ἔσται μᾶλλον ἀκριβῆς  
 τῶν τινῶν· ᾗτται δὲ καὶ αὐτοδόξαν ἀληθῆ εἶναι  
 καὶ αὐτοέκαστον μάλιστα εἶναι· ὥστε αὕτη ἡ δόξα<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Reading περὶ for παρὰ with Strache-Wallies.

<sup>2</sup> Omitting ἡ μάλιστα ἀληθῆς with the best mss.

be drawn from it about the latter ; if there appears to be such an inference, it will be a sophism not a demonstration. A philosopheme is a demonstrative inference, an epichireme is a dialectical inference, a sophism is a contentious inference, and an aporeme is a contentious inference of contradiction.

If something were to be shown from two premisses, both of them generally accepted but not equally accepted, there is no reason why what is shown should not be more generally accepted than either of them. But if one premiss were to be generally accepted and the other neither accepted nor rejected, or if one were to be accepted and the other rejected, then, if the acceptance and the rejection were equal, the conclusion would also be equally accepted and rejected. If, however, either acceptance or rejection is more general, the conclusion will follow the more general.

An error in reasoning also occurs when a man shows something by a longer process, when he might employ a shorter process, using material which is already existent in the argument, for example, when he is showing that one opinion is more truly an opinion than another ; if he were to claim (a) that ' a thing-in-itself is most completely that thing,' and (b) that ' an object-of-opinion-in-itself really exists,' so that ' it is more completely an object of opinion than the individual objects of opinion,' and were to claim that ' when a thing-in-itself admits of a greater degree, that which is referred to it also admits of a greater degree,' and ' opinion-in-itself, which is more accurate than the individual objects of opinion, is true,' and it has been claimed that ' there is a true opinion-in-itself ' and that ' a thing-in-itself is most completely that thing, it follows that this particular

(g) Conclusions which follow certain combinations of premisses.

(h) The error of proving something by an unnecessarily long process.

162 a

ἀκριβεστέρα ἐστίν. τίς δὲ ἡ μοχθηρία; ἢ ὅτι ποιεῖ, παρ' ὃ ὁ λόγος, λανθάνειν τὸ αἴτιον;

35 XII. Λόγος δ' ἐστὶ δηλὸς ἓνα μὲν τρόπον καὶ δημοσιώτατον, εἰς συμπεπερασμένους οὕτως ὥστε μηδὲν δεῖν ἐπερωτῆσαι· ἓνα δέ, καὶ ὅς μάλιστα

162 b λέγεται, ὅταν εἰλημμένα μὲν ἢ ἐξ ὧν ἀναγκαῖον εἶναι, ἢ δὲ διὰ συμπερασμάτων συμπεραίνόμενος<sup>1</sup>. ἔτι εἰ ἐλλείπει σφόδρα ἐνδόξων.

Ψευδὴς δὲ λόγος καλεῖται τετραχῶς, ἓνα μὲν τρόπον ὅταν φαίνεται συμπεραίνεισθαι μὴ συμ-  
5 περαίνόμενος, ὅς καλεῖται ἐριστικὸς συλλογισμὸς· ἄλλον δὲ ὅταν συμπεραίνεται μὲν μὴ μέντοι πρὸς τὸ προκείμενον, ὅπερ συμβαίνει μάλιστα τοῖς εἰς τὸ ἀδύνατον ἄγουσιν· ἢ πρὸς τὸ προκείμενον μὲν συμπεραίνεται, μὴ μέντοι κατὰ τὴν οἰκείαν μέθοδον. τοῦτο δ' ἐστίν, ὅταν μὴ ὧν ἱατρικὸς  
10 δοκῇ ἱατρικὸς εἶναι ἢ γεωμετρικὸς μὴ ὧν γεωμετρικὸς ἢ διαλεκτικὸς μὴ ὧν διαλεκτικός, ἂν τε ψεῦδος ἂν τ' ἀληθὲς ἢ τὸ συμβαῖνον. ἄλλον δὲ τρόπον εἰς διὰ ψευδῶν συμπεραίνεται. τούτου δ' ἔσται ποτὲ μὲν τὸ συμπέρασμα ψεῦδος, ποτὲ δ' ἀληθές· τὸ μὲν γὰρ ψεῦδος αἰεὶ διὰ ψευδῶν  
15 περαίνεται, τὸ δ' ἀληθὲς ἐγχωρεῖ καὶ μὴ ἐξ ἀληθῶν, ὥσπερ εἴρηται καὶ πρότερον.

Τὸ μὲν οὖν ψευδὴ τὸν λόγον εἶναι τοῦ λέγοντος ἀμάρτημα μᾶλλον ἢ τοῦ λόγου, καὶ οὐδὲ τοῦ λέγοντος αἰεὶ, ἀλλ' ὅταν λανθάνῃ αὐτόν, ἐπεὶ καθ' αὐτόν γε πολλῶν ἀληθῶν ἀποδεχόμεθα μᾶλλον,

<sup>1</sup> Reading συμπεραίνόμενος with A B and Ca<sup>1</sup>.



opinion is more accurate.' What is objectionable in this? Is it not that it causes the ground on which the argument rests to be hidden?

XII. An argument is clear in one sense (and this is the most popular one), if it is brought to a conclusion in such a way that it is unnecessary to ask any further questions; and in another sense (and it is in this sense that the term is most often used) when the results are obtained from premisses from which they must necessarily follow and the argument is concluded by means of conclusions, and if, moreover, there is a marked absence of popular opinions.

Clearness in argument : its three kinds.

An argument is called fallacious in four different senses : (a) when it seems to be brought to a conclusion when it is not really so (the so-called contentious reasoning); (b) when it reaches a conclusion, but not the proposed conclusion (this happens most frequently in *reductiones ad impossibile*); (c) when it comes to the proposed conclusion but not by the appropriate method (that is, when a non-medical argument appears to be medical, or a non-geometrical to be geometrical, or a non-dialectical to be dialectical, whether the result be true or false); and (d) when the conclusion is reached by means of false premisses (here the conclusion will be sometimes false and sometimes true; for a false conclusion is always reached through false premisses, but a true conclusion may be reached even from false premisses, as has been already stated <sup>a</sup>).

Fallacy in argument :

(a) Its four kinds.

The fallaciousness of an argument is the fault of the arguer rather than of the argument itself; but it is not always the fault of the arguer either, but only when he fails to observe its fallaciousness; for we often accept a fallacious argument for its own sake

(b) How far does it deserve censure?

162 b

20 ἂν ἐξ ὅτι μάλιστα δοκούντων ἀναιρῇ τι τῶν ἀληθῶν. τοιοῦτος γὰρ ὢν ἑτέρων ἀληθῶν ἀπόδειξις ἐστίν· δεῖ γὰρ τῶν κειμένων τι μὴ εἶναι παντελῶς, ὥστ' ἔσται τούτου ἀπόδειξις. εἰ δ' ἀληθὲς συμπεραίνοιτο διὰ ψευδῶν καὶ λίαν εὐθηλῶν, πολλῶν ἂν εἴη χείρων ψευδὸς συλλογιζομένων· εἴη δ' ἂν  
 25 τοιοῦτος καὶ ψευδὸς συμπεραίνόμενος. ὥστε δῆλον ὅτι πρώτη μὲν ἐπίσκεψις λόγου καθ' αὐτὸν εἰ συμπεραίνεται, δευτέρα δὲ πότερον ἀληθὲς ἢ ψευδὸς, τρίτη δ' ἐκ ποίων τινῶν. εἰ μὲν γὰρ ἐκ ψευδῶν ἐνδόξων δέ, λογικός, εἰ δ' ἐξ ὄντων μὲν ἀδόξων δέ, φαῦλος. εἰ δὲ καὶ ψευδῇ καὶ λίαν ἄδοξα, δῆλον ὅτι φαῦλος, ἢ ἀπλῶς ἢ τοῦ πρά-  
 30 γματος.

XIII. Τὸ δ' ἐν ἀρχῇ καὶ τὰ ἐναντία πῶς αἰτεῖται ὁ ἐρωτῶν, κατ' ἀλήθειαν μὲν ἐν τοῖς Ἀναλυτικοῖς εἴρηται, κατὰ δόξαν δὲ νῦν λεκτέον.

Αἰτεῖσθαι δὲ φαίνονται τὸ ἐν ἀρχῇ πένταχῶς,  
 35 φανερώτατα μὲν καὶ πρῶτον εἴ τις αὐτὸ τὸ δείκνυσθαι δέον αἰτήσῃ. τοῦτο δ' ἐπ' αὐτοῦ μὲν οὐ ρᾶδιον λανθάνειν, ἐν δὲ τοῖς συνωνύμοις, καὶ ἐν  
 163 a ὅσοις τὸ ὄνομα καὶ ὁ λόγος τὸ αὐτὸ σημαίνει, μᾶλλον. δευτέρον δὲ ὅταν κατὰ μέρος δέον ἀπο-

<sup>a</sup> *An. Pr.* II. 16 (64 b 28 ff.).

in preference to several true arguments, if it destroys some true proposition by means of premisses which are as generally accepted as possible. For an argument of this kind is a demonstration of other truths ; for one of the premisses ought not to find a place in it at all, and so it will be a demonstration of this fact. But if a true conclusion were to be reached from false and entirely foolish premisses, the argument would be worse than many which argue to a false conclusion, and an argument leading to a false conclusion might also be of this kind. It is, therefore, obvious that the first thing to look for in an argument itself is whether it reaches a conclusion ; the second thing, whether its conclusion is true or false ; and the third thing, from what premisses it is drawn. For if it is reached from premisses which are false but generally accepted, it is a dialectical argument ; but if it is reached from premisses which are real but generally rejected, it is bad ; whereas, if the premisses are both false and entirely rejected by general opinion, it is obviously bad, either absolutely or with reference to the subject in question.

(c) Test-questions for its detection.

XIII. How the questioner begs the original question and also begs contraries has been truly described in the *Analytics* <sup>a</sup> ; it must now be described from the point of view of popular opinion.

The begging of questions : five ways of doing this are distinguished.

There seem to be five ways in which people beg the original question. (1) The first and most obvious way is when a man begs the very point which has to be shown ; this does not easily escape detection when the actual term is used, but is more liable to do so where synonyms are used and the term and the description signify the same thing. (2) A second way is when a man begs something universally when

δείξαι καθόλου τις αἰτήσῃ, οἷον ἐπιχειρῶν ὅτι τῶν  
 ἐναντίων μία ἐπιστήμη, ὅλως τῶν ἀντικειμένων  
 ἀξιῶσειε μίαν εἶναι· δοκεῖ γὰρ ὁ ἔδει καθ' αὐτὸ  
 5 δείξαι μετ' ἄλλων αἰτεῖσθαι πλειόνων. τρίτον εἴ  
 τις καθόλου δείξαι προκειμένου κατὰ μέρος αἰτή-  
 σειν, οἷον εἰ πάντων τῶν ἐναντίων προκειμένου  
 τῶνδ' ἐκ τινῶν ἀξιῶσειε· δοκεῖ γὰρ καὶ οὗτος, ὁ  
 μετὰ πλειόνων ἔδει δείξαι, καθ' αὐτὸ χωρὶς  
 αἰτεῖσθαι. πάλιν εἴ τις διελὼν αἰτεῖται τὸ προ-  
 10 βληθέν, οἷον εἰ δέον δείξαι τὴν ἰατρικὴν ὑγιεινοῦ  
 καὶ νοσώδους, χωρὶς ἐκάτερον ἀξιῶσειεν. ἢ εἴ  
 τις τῶν ἐπομένων ἀλλήλοις ἐξ ἀνάγκης θάτερον  
 αἰτήσκειν, οἷον τὴν πλευρὰν ἀσύμμετρον τῇ δια-  
 μέτρῳ, δέον ἀποδείξαι ὅτι ἡ διάμετρος τῇ πλευρᾷ.

Ἰσαχῶς δὲ καὶ τὰναντία αἰτοῦνται τῷ ἐξ ἀρχῆς.  
 15 πρῶτον μὲν γὰρ εἴ τις τὰς ἀντικειμένας αἰτήσαιο  
 φάσιν καὶ ἀπόφασιν, δεύτερον δὲ τὰναντία κατὰ  
 τὴν ἀντίθεσιν, οἷον ἀγαθὸν καὶ κακὸν ταυτόν.  
 τρίτον εἴ τις τὸ καθόλου ἀξιῶσας ἐπὶ μέρους  
 αἰτοῖτο τὴν ἀντίφασιν, οἷον εἰ λαβὼν τῶν ἐναντίων  
 μίαν ἐπιστήμην, ὑγιεινοῦ καὶ νοσώδους ἑτέραν  
 20 ἀξιῶσειεν, ἢ τοῦτο αἰτησάμενος ἐπὶ τοῦ καθόλου



he ought to show it in a particular case ; for example, if, when he is endeavouring to show that there is one science of contraries, he were to claim that there is in general one science of opposites ; for then he is regarded as begging, among several other things, what he should have shown by itself. (3) A third way is when it is proposed to show something universally and he begs it in a particular case ; if, for example, when it is proposed to show that the science of contraries is always one, he begs it of a particular pair of contraries ; for he is also regarded as begging separately and by itself something which he ought to have shown in conjunction with a number of other cases. (4) Another way is when he divides the proposition up and begs its separate parts ; for example, if, when he has to show that medicine is the science of the healthy and of the diseased, he were to claim the two points separately ; or (5) if he were to beg one of two things which necessarily follow one another, for example, that the side is incommensurable with the diagonal when he has to show that the diagonal is incommensurable with the side.

There is the same number of ways of begging contraries as of begging the original question. (1) The first way occurs if one were to beg the opposite affirmation and negation ; (2) the second, if he were to beg the contraries in an antithesis, saying, for example, that the same thing is good and bad ; (3) the third, if he were to claim something universally and beg the contradiction of it in a particular case, for example, if he were to secure an assumption that the knowledge of contraries is one and then claim that the knowledge of what is healthy and of what is diseased is different ; or (4) if, after begging this,

The begging of contraries : five ways of doing this are distinguished.

τὴν ἀντίφασιν πειρῶτο λαμβάνειν. πάλιν ἐάν τις αἰτήσῃ τὸ ἐναντίον τῷ ἐξ ἀνάγκης συμβαίνοντι διὰ τῶν κειμένων, καὶ εἴ τις αὐτὰ μὲν μὴ λάβοι τὰντικείμενα, τοιαῦτα δ' αἰτήσαιτο δύο ἐξ ὧν ἔσται ἡ ἀντικειμένη ἀντίφασις. διαφέρει δὲ τὸ 25 τὰναντία λαμβάνειν τοῦ ἐν ἀρχῇ ὅτι τοῦ μὲν ἐστὶν ἡ ἀμαρτία πρὸς τὸ συμπέρασμα (πρὸς γὰρ ἐκεῖνο βλέποντες τὸ ἐν ἀρχῇ λέγομεν αἰτεῖσθαι), τὰ δ' ἐναντία ἐστὶν ἐν ταῖς προτάσεσι τῷ ἔχειν πως ταύτας πρὸς ἀλλήλας.

XIV. Πρὸς δὲ γυμνασίαν καὶ μελέτην τῶν 30 τοιούτων λόγων πρῶτον μὲν ἀντιστρέφειν ἐθίζεσθαι χρὴ τοὺς λόγους. οὕτως γὰρ πρὸς τε τὸ λεγόμενον εὐπορώτερον ἔξομεν, καὶ ἐν ὀλίγοις πολλοὺς ἐξεπιστησόμεθα λόγους. τὸ γὰρ ἀντιστρέφειν ἐστὶ τὸ μεταλαβόντα τὸ συμπέρασμα μετὰ τῶν λοιπῶν ἐρωτημάτων ἀνελεῖν ἐν τῶν δοθέν- 35 των· ἀνάγκη γάρ, εἰ τὸ συμπέρασμα μὴ ἐστὶ, μίαν τινὰ ἀναιρεῖσθαι τῶν προτάσεων, εἴπερ πασῶν τεθεισῶν ἀνάγκη ἦν τὸ συμπέρασμα εἶναι. πρὸς ἅπασάν τε θέσιν, καὶ ὅτι οὕτως καὶ ὅτι οὐχ 163 b οὕτως, τὸ ἐπιχείρημα σκεπτέον, καὶ εὐρόντα τὴν λύσιν εὐθὺς ζητητέον· οὕτω γὰρ ἅμα συμβήσεται πρὸς τε τὸ ἐρωτᾶν καὶ πρὸς τὸ ἀποκρίνεσθαι γεγυμνάσθαι. καὶ πρὸς μηδένα ἄλλον ἔχωμεν, πρὸς αὐτούς. παράλληλά τε παραβάλλειν, ἐκλέ- 5 γοντα πρὸς τὴν αὐτὴν θέσιν<sup>1</sup> ἐπιχειρήματα· τοῦτο γὰρ πρὸς τε τὸ βιάζεσθαι πολλὴν εὐπορίαν ποιεῖ

<sup>1</sup> Reading ἐκλέγοντα πρὸς τὴν αὐτὴν θέσιν with the best mss.

<sup>a</sup> Cf. *An. Pr.* 59 b 1 ff.

he were to try and secure the contradiction universally. (5) Another way occurs if he were to beg the contrary of that which necessarily follows from the premisses, even without securing the assumption of actual opposites but merely begging two premisses of such a kind that the opposite contradiction will result from them. The assumption of contraries differs from the begging of the original question, because in the latter case the error concerns the conclusion (for we are looking to this when we say that there is a begging of the original question), whereas the contraries are situated in the premisses, namely, in the relation in which they stand to one another.

XIV. For training and practice in this kind of argument one should, in the first place, accustom oneself to converting arguments; for thus we shall be better provided for treating the subject under discussion and obtain by a quick method a thorough knowledge of a number of arguments. For conversion <sup>a</sup> is the reversing of the conclusion, together with the other questions raised, and the demolition of one of the points conceded; for of necessity, if the conclusion is not true, one of the premisses must be demolished, since it was owing to the assumption of all of them that the conclusion necessarily followed. In dealing with any thesis we must examine the argument both for and against, and having discovered it we must immediately seek the solution; for the result will be that we shall have trained ourselves at the same time both for question and for answer. If we have no one else with whom to argue, we must do so with ourselves. Also one must choose arguments relating to the same thesis and compare them; for this procedure supplies an abundance of material

*Various hints upon training and practice in dialectical arguments:*  
(a) The usefulness of converting arguments.

(b) The usefulness of scrutinizing the arguments pro and con.

καὶ πρὸς τὸ ἐλέγχειν μεγάλην ἔχει βοήθειαν, ὅταν  
 εὐπορῇ τις καὶ ὅτι οὕτως καὶ ὅτι οὐχ οὕτως·  
 πρὸς τὰ ἐναντία γὰρ συμβαίνει ποιεῖσθαι τὴν  
 φυλακὴν. πρὸς τε γνῶσιν καὶ τὴν κατὰ φιλοσοφίαν  
 10 φρόνησιν τὸ δύνασθαι συννοᾶν καὶ συνεωρακέναι  
 τὰ ἀφ' ἑκατέρας συμβαίνοντα τῆς ὑποθέσεως οὐ  
 μικρὸν ὄργανον· λοιπὸν γὰρ τούτων ὀρθῶς ἐλέσθαι  
 θάτερον. δεῖ δὲ πρὸς τὸ τοιοῦτο ὑπάρχειν εὐφυᾶ·  
 καὶ τοῦτ' ἔστιν ἢ κατ' ἀλήθειαν εὐφυῖα, τὸ δύνασθαι  
 15 καλῶς ἐλέσθαι τὰληθές καὶ φυγεῖν τὸ ψεῦδος·  
 ὅπερ οἱ πεφυκότες εὖ δύνανται ποιεῖν· εὖ γὰρ  
 φιλοῦντες καὶ μισοῦντες τὸ προσφερόμενον εὖ  
 κρίνουσι τὸ βέλτιστον.

Πρὸς τε τὰ πλειστάκεις ἐμπίπτοντα τῶν προβλη-  
 μάτων ἐξεπίστασθαι δεῖ λόγους, καὶ μάλιστα περὶ  
 τῶν πρώτων θέσεων· ἐν τούτοις γὰρ ἀποδυ-  
 20 πετοῦσιν οἱ ἀποκρινόμενοι πολλάκις. ἔτι τε  
 ὄρων εὐπορεῖν δεῖ, καὶ τῶν ἐνδόξων τε καὶ τῶν  
 πρώτων ἔχειν προχείρους· διὰ γὰρ τούτων οἱ  
 συλλογισμοὶ γίνονται. πειρατέον δὲ καὶ εἰς ἃ  
 πλειστάκεις ἐμπίπτουσιν οἱ ἄλλοι λόγοι κατέχειν.  
 ὥσπερ γὰρ ἐν γεωμετρίᾳ πρὸ ἔργου τὸ περὶ τὰ  
 25 στοιχεῖα γεγυμνάσθαι, καὶ ἐν ἀριθμοῖς τὸ περὶ  
 τοὺς κεφαλισμοὺς προχείρως ἔχειν μέγα διαφέρει  
 πρὸς τὸ καὶ τὸν ἄλλον ἀριθμὸν γινώσκειν πολλα-  
 πλασιούμενον, ὁμοίως καὶ ἐν τοῖς λόγοις τὸ  
 πρόχειρον εἶναι περὶ τὰς ἀρχὰς καὶ τὰς προτάσεις  
 ἀπὸ στόματος ἐξεπίστασθαι· καθάπερ γὰρ ἐν τῷ  
 30 μνημονικῷ μόνον οἱ τόποι τεθέντες εὐθὺς ποιοῦσιν  
 αὐτὰ μνημονεύειν, καὶ ταῦτα ποιήσει συλλογιστι-  
 κώτερον διὰ τὸ πρὸς ὠρισμένας αὐτὰς βλέπειν



for carrying the position by storm and is very helpful in refutation, when one has plenty of arguments both for and against ; for the result is that one is put on one's guard against contrary arguments. Also to take and to have taken in at a glance the results of each of two hypotheses is no mean instrument for the cult of knowledge and philosophic wisdom ; for then it only remains to make a correct choice of one of them. For such a process one must possess a certain natural ability, and real natural ability consists in being able correctly to choose the true and avoid the false. Men of natural ability can do this ; for they judge correctly what is best by a correct feeling of love or hatred for what is set before them.

You ought thoroughly to learn arguments dealing with questions of frequent occurrence and especially primary propositions ; for answerers often become discouraged in dealing with these. Moreover, you should have a good supply of definitions and have those of familiar and primary ideas ready to hand ; for it is by means of these that reasonings are carried on. You should also try and grasp the categories into which the other arguments most often fall. For just as in geometry it is useful to have been trained in the elements, and in arithmetic to have a ready knowledge of the multiplication table up to ten times helps much to the recognition of other numbers which are the result of multiplication, so too in arguments it is important to be prompt about first principles and to know your premisses by heart. For just as to a trained memory the mere reference to the places in which they occur causes the things themselves to be remembered, so the above rules will make a man a better reasoner, because he sees the premisses

(c) The usefulness of a thorough knowledge of the most usual arguments.

163 b

κατ' ἀριθμόν. πρότασίν τε κοινήν μᾶλλον ἢ λόγον  
εἰς μνήμην θετέον· ἀρχῆς γὰρ καὶ ὑποθέσεως εὐ-  
πορῆσαι μετρίως χαλεπόν.

- Ἔτι τὸν ἓνα λόγον πολλοὺς ποιεῖν ἐπιστέον, ὥς  
35 ἀδηλότατα κρύπτοντας. εἴη δ' ἂν τὸ τοιοῦτον,  
εἴ τις ὅτι πλεῖστον ἀφισταίῃ τῆς συγγενείας περὶ  
ᾧ ὁ λόγος. ἔσονται δὲ δυνατοὶ τῶν λόγων οἱ  
164 a μάλιστα καθόλου τοῦτο πάσχειν, οἷον ὅτι οὐκ ἔστι  
μία πλειόνων ἐπιστήμη· οὕτω γὰρ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν  
πρὸς τι καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἐναντίων καὶ συστοίχων ἐστίν.

- Δεῖ δὲ καὶ τὰς ἀπομνημονεύσεις καθόλου ποιεῖ-  
σθαι τῶν λόγων, καὶ ἢ διειλεγμένος ἐπὶ μέρους·  
5 οὕτω γὰρ καὶ πολλοὺς ἐξέσται τὸν ἓνα ποιεῖν.  
ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ ἐν ῥητορικοῖς ἐπὶ τῶν ἐνθυμημάτων.  
αὐτὸν δ' ὅτι μάλιστα φεύγειν ἐπὶ τὸ καθόλου  
φέρειν τοὺς συλλογισμούς. αἰεὶ τε δεῖ σκοπεῖν  
τοὺς λόγους, εἰ ἐπὶ κοινῶν διαλέγονται· πάντες  
γὰρ οἱ ἐν μέρει καὶ καθόλου διειλεγμένοι εἰσὶ, καὶ  
10 ἔνεστιν ἐν τῇ τοῦ κατὰ μέρος ἢ τοῦ καθόλου  
ἀπόδειξις διὰ τὸ μὴ εἶναι συλλογίσασθαι μηδὲν  
ἄνευ τοῦ καθόλου.

- Τὴν δὲ γυμνασίαν ἀποδοτέον τῶν μὲν ἐπακτικῶν  
πρὸς νέον, τῶν δὲ συλλογιστικῶν πρὸς ἔμπειρον.  
πειρατέον δὲ λαμβάνειν παρὰ μὲν τῶν συλλο-  
15 γιστικῶν τὰς προτάσεις, παρὰ δὲ τῶν ἐπακτικῶν  
τὰς παραβολάς· ἐν τούτοις γὰρ ἐκάτεροι γεγυμνα-  
σμένοι εἰσίν. ὅλως δ' ἐκ τοῦ γυμνάζεσθαι δια-  
736

defined and numbered. A premiss of general application should be committed to memory rather than an argument, since it is pretty difficult to have a first principle or hypothesis ready to hand.

You must accustom yourself to making a single argument into many, keeping the process as secret as possible. This would be best achieved by avoiding as far as possible anything closely connected with the topic under discussion. Arguments which are entirely universal will be best suited to this treatment, for example, the argument that 'there is not one knowledge of more than one thing'; for this applies to relative terms, contraries and co-ordinates.

(d) An adversary's single argument should be divided into many, and rendered as universal as possible.

You should also make records of arguments in a universal form, even though the discussion has been concerned with a particular case; for thus it will be possible to make a single argument into many. (The same thing applies also to enthymemes in rhetoric.) You should, however, yourself avoid, as far as possible, directing discussions towards the universal. You should also always examine your arguments and see whether they are proceeding on the basis of principles of general application; for all particular arguments are also argued universally, and the demonstration of the universal is inherent in that of the particular, because it is impossible to reason at all without employing the universal.

Against a young man you should apply your training in inductive methods, against an expert your training in deductive methods. You should try to obtain premisses from those who employ deduction and parallel instances from those who practise induction; for they have been trained in this or that branch respectively. In a word, as a result of

(e) Inductive arguments are most useful against the young, deductive against the expert.

- 164 a λεγόμενον πειρατέον ἀποφέρεισθαι ἢ συλλογισμόν  
 περί τινος ἢ λύσιν ἢ πρότασιν ἢ ἔνστασιν, ἢ εἰ  
 ὀρθῶς τις ἤρετο ἢ εἰ μὴ ὀρθῶς, ἢ αὐτὸς ἢ ἕτερος,
- 164 b καὶ παρὰ τί ἐκάτερον. ἐκ τούτων γὰρ ἡ δύναμις,  
 τὸ δὲ γυμνάζεσθαι δυνάμεως χάριν, καὶ μάλιστα  
 περὶ τὰς προτάσεις καὶ ἐνστάσεις· ἔστι γὰρ ὡς  
 ἀπλῶς εἰπεῖν διαλεκτικός ὁ προτατικός καὶ ἐνστα-  
 τικός. ἔστι δὲ τὸ μὲν προτείνεισθαι ἐν ποιεῖν τὰ  
 5 πλείω (δεῖ γὰρ ἐν ὅλῳ ληφθῆναι πρὸς ὃ ὁ λόγος),  
 τὸ δ' ἐνίστασθαι τὸ ἐν πολλά· ἢ γὰρ διαιρεῖ ἢ  
 ἀναιρεῖ, τὸ μὲν διδοὺς τὸ δ' οὐ τῶν προτεινομέ-  
 νων.

Οὐχ ἅπαντι δὲ διαλεκτέον, οὐδὲ πρὸς τὸν τυ-  
 χόντα γυμναστέον. ἀνάγκη γὰρ πρὸς ἐνίου φαύ-  
 10 λους γίνεσθαι τοὺς λόγους. πρὸς γὰρ τὸν πάντως  
 πειρώμενον φαίνεσθαι διαφεύγειν δίκαιον μὲν πάν-  
 τως πειρᾶσθαι συλλογίσασθαι, οὐκ εὐσχημον δέ.  
 διόπερ οὐ δεῖ συνεστάναι εὐχερῶς πρὸς τοὺς τυ-  
 χόντας· ἀνάγκη γὰρ πονηρολογίαν συμβαίνειν· καὶ  
 γὰρ οἱ γυμναζόμενοι ἀδυνατοῦσιν ἀπέχεσθαι τοῦ  
 15 διαλέγεσθαι μὴ ἀγωνιστικῶς.

Δεῖ δὲ καὶ πεποιημένους ἔχειν λόγους πρὸς τὰ  
 τοιαῦτα τῶν προβλημάτων, ἐν οἷς ἐλαχίστων εὐ-  
 πορήσαντες πρὸς πλείστα χρησίμους ἔξομεν. οὗτοι  
 δ' εἰσὶν οἱ καθόλου, καὶ πρὸς οὓς πορίζεσθαι χα-  
 λεπώτερον ἐκ τῶν παρὰ πόδας.



dialectical exercise you should try and achieve either a syllogism on some subject, or a solution, or a proposition, or an objection, or a determination whether a question has been put correctly or incorrectly either by yourself or someone else, and the cause of its being correctly or incorrectly put. These are the sources of ability in discussion, and the purpose of exercise is the acquisition of ability, particularly in connexion with propositions and objections ; for, to put the matter simply, the man who can make propositions and objections is the skilled dialectician. To make a proposition is to turn many things into one (for the end to which the argument is directed must be included in a single whole), while to make an objection is to turn one thing into many ; for the objector distinguishes or demolishes, conceding one proposition and refusing to concede another.

You ought not to discuss with everybody or exercise yourself against any casual person ; for against some people argument is sure to deteriorate ; for with a man who tries every means to seem to avoid defeat you are justified in using every means to obtain your conclusion, but this is not a seemly proceeding. You should not, therefore, readily join issue with casual persons ; this can only result in a debased kind of discussion ; for those who are practising cannot forbear from disputing contentiously.

Also you ought to have arguments already framed to deal with problems, where, though we are provided with very few arguments, those which we have will be useful on the greatest number of occasions. These arguments are those which are universal and those for which it is more difficult to provide material from readily accessible sources.

(f) Do not argue with any casual person.

(g) Special provision should be made to deal with arguments of universal application.



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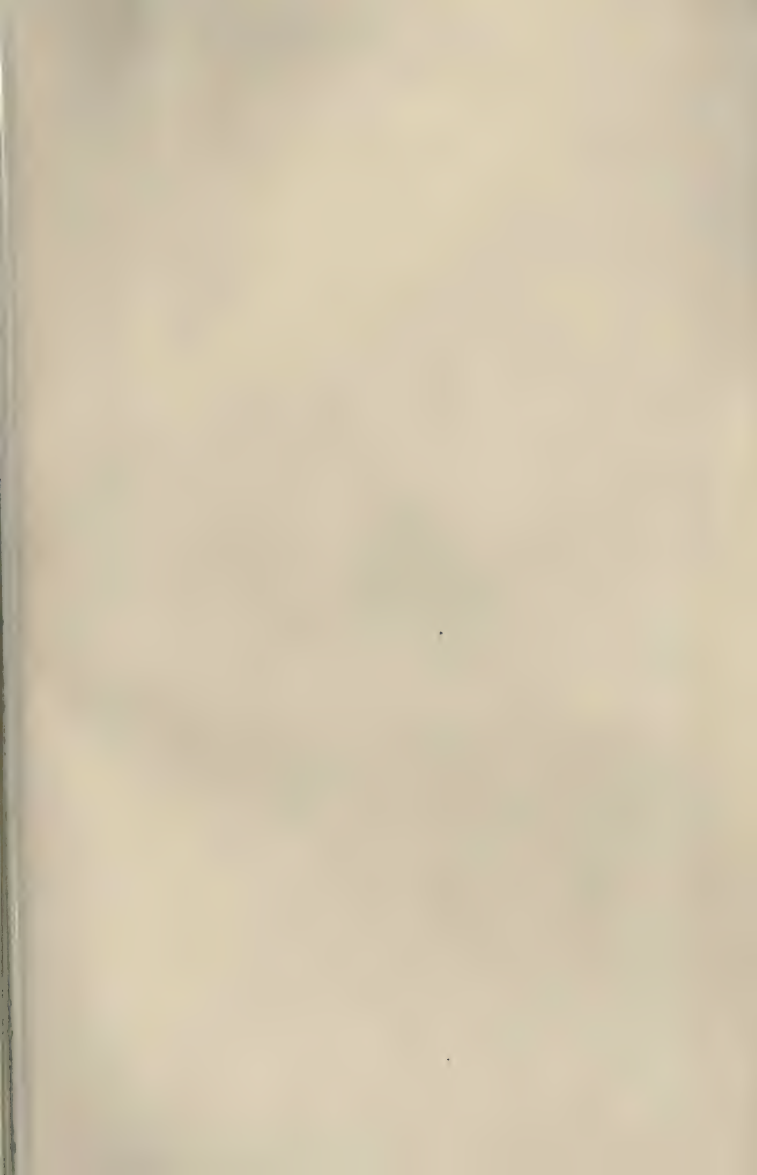
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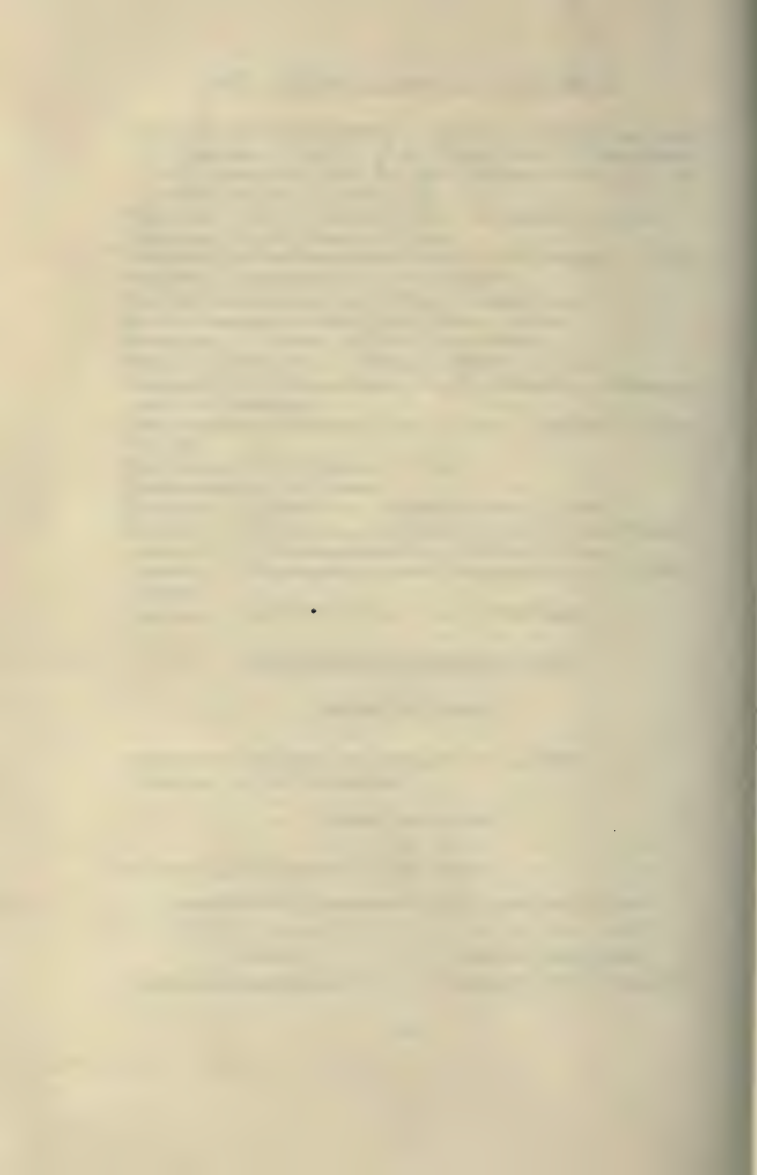
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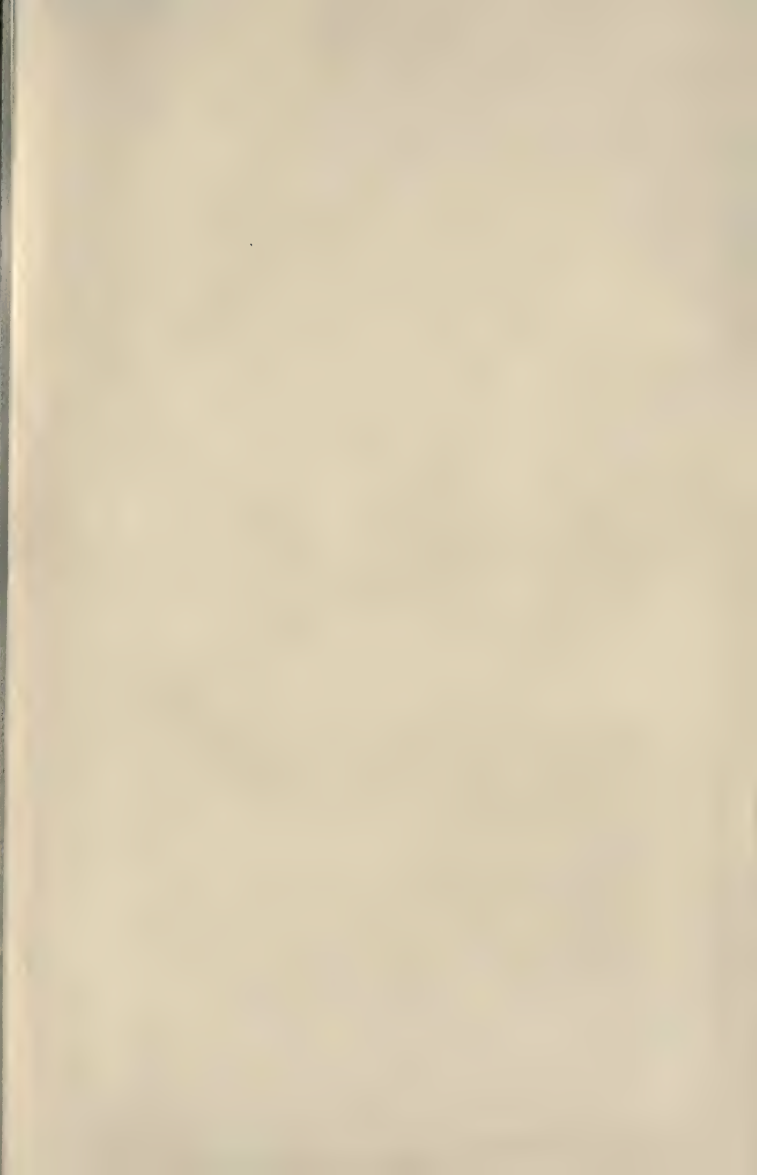
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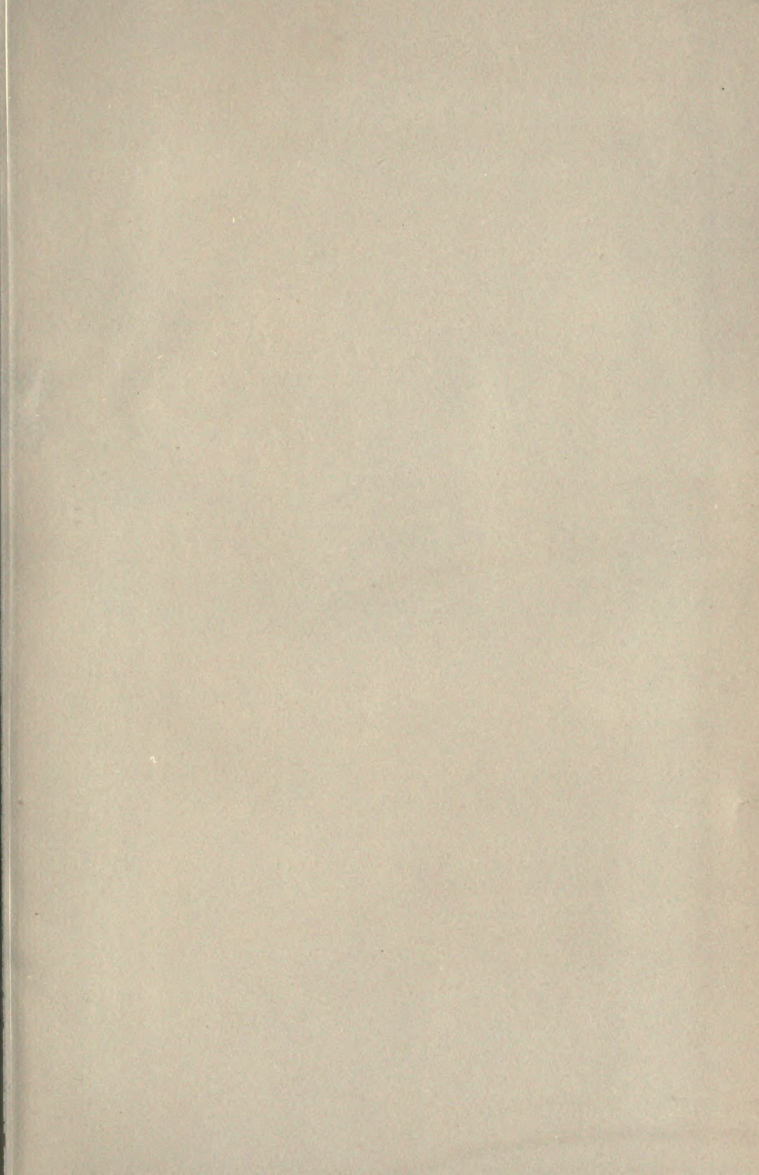


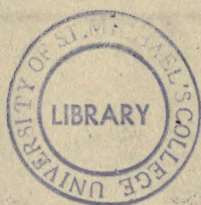














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